

**STOKE-ON-TRENT AND STAFFORDSHIRE
LOCAL ENTERPRISE PARTNERSHIP**

**Note of a Board Meeting held on
13th June 2013
Keele Hall, Keele University, Keele**

Present

Board Members

Ron Dougan	(Trent and Dove Housing) –Chair
Ken Stepney	(JCB)
Mark Kerrigan	(Alton Towers)
Kevin Oakes	(Steelite)
Sean Parry	(Michelin)
Judith Kirkland	(BES)
John Carr	(Barrington Engineering Ltd.)
Caroline Mairs	(representing Keele University)
Cllr Mohammed Pervez	(Leader, Stoke-on-Trent City Council)
John van de Laarschot	(Chief Executive, Stoke-on-Trent City Council)
Nick Bell	(Chief Executive, Staffordshire County Council)
Cllr Gordon Alcott	(Cabinet Member, Cannock Chase Council)
Cllr Mike Heenan	(Leader, Stafford Borough Council)
Cllr Mike Stubbs	(representing Newcastle under Lyme Borough Council)
Cllr Paul Shotton	(Deputy Leader, Stoke-on-Trent City Council)

Associate Members

Stuart Adams	Endeka Ceramics Ltd.
Jonathan Dale	(Longton Avia (UK) Ltd.)
Geoff Riley	(Staffordshire and Black Country BIC)
John Smart	(Kapability Associates)
Richard Ward	(Vistage International (UK) Ltd.)

Observers / In attendance

Bob Phillips	(Cannock Chase Council)
Kevin Postones	(BIS)
Cllr Frances Beatty	(Stafford Borough Council)

Advisory/Secretariat

Peter Davenport	(Staffordshire County Council)
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1. Welcome and Introductions

The Chair welcomed Paul Shotton to his first LEP meeting

2. Apologies

Kerry Diamond, Richard Cotterell, Adrian MacLaughlin, Jenny Tucker, Cllr Philip Atkins, Cllr Val Richards, Cllr Eddie Boden, Jeremy Mellor, Ian Jenkinson, Sarah Robinson, Paul Richards, Helen Riley, Dai Lerner, Neale Clifton, Ted Manders, Richard King, John Betty, Joanne Tyzzer, Steve Burrows, Paul Masterman, Sara Williams, Darryl Evers, Alison Knight, Jeff Marlow

3. Declarations of Interest

The following members declared an interest in items on the agenda.

Cllr Mike Heenan – Beacon Business Park
Cllr Paul Shotton – RGF Jobs and Growth Fund

4. **Notes of Previous Meeting and Matters Arising**

The notes of the previous meeting were agreed. Delivery Plans would be circulated. These have been delayed as consequence of work focussing on the presentation to Ministers in support of the deal. A number have been considered by the relevant sub groups. A combined document will be circulated as soon as it is available.

5. **Key Performance Indicators**

The presentation was supported. The Jobs Created figure ideally needed to reflect both inward investment and the growth of local businesses as the latter would be larger.

Board members were keen to understand why potential investors had not chosen our area – John Willis to provide a resume.

6. **Governance Framework**

Whilst members welcomed the principles they wished to reflect on the detail, particularly in relation to the management arrangements for the City Deal. The linkage to the Deal Governance needed to be checked.

Action

1. Copy of the presentation to be circulated to all members
2. Members to provide any comments in advance of the next meeting
3. Detailed documentation to be prepared thereafter.

7. **LEP Strategic Plan Presentation**

John Sellgren set out what he saw the components of the Economic Growth Strategy were and the means by which they would be developed. The vision is to achieve economic growth and employment through the growth of indigenous companies, inward investment, and business creation.

The presentation set out the strategic objectives, delivery of the strategy, enablers, and the next steps.

The discussion highlighted the need for the sectors and innovation work in building our understanding in this area. Energy is an implicit element in the work but which needed to be made more explicit to complement the Deal proposals.

A series of challenge sessions will be arranged to develop the elements. This will be done in conjunction with the EU Investment Fund Strategy work. Government Guidance will be published in July. All components will draw on the evidence compiled previously and particularly for the deal.

8. **Finance and Funding Update - Confidential**

Not for publication.

9. **Inward Investment Presentation by John Willis**

John gave a presentation of the teams activities and outcomes. China was identified by the board as an opportunity for attracting inward investment and the

team were asked to pursue this given the presence of a recent LEP Advisor. SCC had recently hosted a Chinese delegation at i54.

The relationship with UKTI was not resulting in a strong pipeline of proposals unfortunately – **Board Members were asked to press the point at forthcoming meetings**

10. **Any Other Business**

- a) The LEP was hosting a visit by Emma Ward – Director Local Growth – BIS, who acts as the Whitehall Sponsor for the LEP on the 14th June. This visit would involve a tour of the area and a presentation.
- b) Ken introduced Azhar Mobin, the Interim Chief Operating Officer of the Education Trust

Reports for Information

(a) Local Transport Body Update

The Local Transport Body had met for the first time and agreed the process and its role. Following a first stage sift, 8 schemes were being reviewed in detail to inform the final priorities. The next meeting of the LTB was scheduled for the 17th July. Papers and material were being made available on a page in the LEP website.

Liaison with neighbouring LEP was progressing.

(b) Deal Update

The briefing on the preceding Tuesday had been well supported and the team were willing to provide briefings to sub groups and respond to queries as requested.

The presentation to the Ad Hoc Ministerial Group was to be on the 17th July. This would be preceded by a presentation to Greg Clarke on the 25th June.

(c) Sub Groups

The sub group reports were received and the success in securing three local transport pinchpoint schemes applauded. The extent of the media to whom press releases were circulated was queried.

The meeting closed at 8:10pm