

LEP Executive Group Meeting
Broad Eye Building, Earl Street, Stafford, ST16 2QR
12th May 2016

Minutes

Present

Group Members

David Frost (Chair)	
Cllr Philip Atkins	Leader, Staffordshire County Council
Kerry Diamond	Continental Engineering
Cllr Patrick Farrington	Stafford Borough Council
Jonathan Dale	Denovaint
David Sidaway	City Director, Stoke-on-Trent City Council
Richard Cotterell	Perkins Engines
Cllr Abi Brown	Deputy Leader, Stoke-on-Trent City Council
Prof Trevor McMillan	Keele University
Kevin Oakes	Steelite
Ken Stepney	JCB

Advisory/Secretariat

Peter Davenport	Stoke-on-Trent & Staffordshire LEP
Julie Frost	Office Manager, Stoke-on-Trent & Staffordshire LEP
Andrea Whitworth	BIS West Midlands
Chris Gill	(Consultant) Programme Director

In Attendance

Jonathan Phipps	Stoke-on-Trent City Council
Kevin Bell	Stoke-on-Trent City Council
Karen Tierney	Stoke-on-Trent City Council
Chris Kirkland	Make-It Team
James Bailey	Staffordshire County Council
Ian Thomson	Stafford Borough Council

Apologies

John Henderson	Chief Executive, Staffordshire County Council
Cllr George Adamson	Cannock Chase District Council

1. Introductions

The Chairman welcomed attendees to the meeting.

2. Apologies

Noted.

3. Declarations of Interest

None. Prof. Trevor McMillan declared an interest in agenda items 7 and 8.

4. Notes of the previous meeting and any matters arising

The minutes were accepted as a true and fair record with one amendment.

5. Chairs Delegated Decisions and Actions

A joint letter from the LEP, the City and the County had been sent to Sir John Collins to raise concerns regarding the Post-16 FE Area Review.

The Chairman raised concerns about recent press coverage on HS2 and negative reporting on the Handsacre Link. It was imperative the LEP made its position known to government and that the DfT appreciated that the Handsacre Link was fundamental to the growth of the area and the LEP would expect to see it maintained. The County had made its concerns known with a letter to the Rt Hon Patrick McLaughlin. Local MPs had also raised their concerns with government.

6. Northern Gateway Development Zone

Peter Davenport, Kevin Bell and Karen Tierney gave a presentation which outlined the objectives. The Executive agreed the importance of referencing Handsacre Link within NGDZ, as that would be key to the success of the project. The concept and approach was supported. It was agreed that a similar approach to business engagement as used for the City Deal would be adopted. Group members were keen to see early business engagement.

Action: An update on the project to be brought to the Executive Group meeting on the 15th September

7. Make It

Jonathan Phipps and Chris Kirkland made a presentation outlining the strategy and engagement for 2015-16 and 2016-17. A series of options were presented on MIPIM UK and MIPIM Cannes. It was agreed that the team should attend MIPIM UK as part of a wider Northern Gateway alliance and MIPIM Cannes as part of the Midlands Engine pavilion.

8. City and Growth Deal Programme Board Report

The report was circulated for consideration and was noted. The Executive was asked to give consideration to the risks on Stafford Western Access Route and the Skills Project involving Stafford College and JCB. The next meeting would receive a presentation on GD3.

9. Confidential item

10. Large Local Transport Major Schemes Fund

The Executive agreed that a bid should be submitted referring to the wider opportunities in development through NGDZ and Midlands Connect and submitting Hanley-Bentilee Link as a potential scheme.

11. Policy and Task Group Updates

Reports were circulated for information

12. Any other Business

None

Date of Next Meeting: Thursday 9th June, Broad Eye Building, Earl Street, Stafford,