

Item 3 – draft minutes

North East Local Enterprise Partnership Investment Board

13 May 2021

Meeting held via Microsoft Teams

Members:

Andrew Moffat
Gillian Hall
Mark Thompson

Advisors:

Ian Richards
David Furness
Jason Hobbs

Observer:

Lucy Winskell

NTCA Officers:

Craig Winter
Katy Laing
Janice Gillespie

LEP Officers:

Paul Woods
Ray Browning
Matt Ebbatson
Ben McLaughlin
Claire Prospert
Nicola Laverick

Minutes:

Brenda Joyce

1 WELCOME FROM THE CHAIR AND APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

The Chair, Andrew Moffat, welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Tracey Dixon and Helen Golightly. The Chair advised attendees that, due to North Tyneside Council changes, Cllr Bruce Pickard was no longer the NTCA representative. On behalf of the Investment Board the Chair asked that formal thanks were placed on the record recognising Cllr Pickard's input and participation.

The Chair advised that due to the absence of elected member representatives the meeting was not quorate. However, the North East Local Enterprise Partnership Board would be informed of the discussions held.

2 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Gillian Hall declared an interest as a Port of Blyth Commissioner.

Mark Thompson declared interests in projects that Ryder Architecture were engaged with including Aykley Heads, Tyne Dock Enterprise Park, Bedlington Town Centre, The Glassworks, NU Futures, Gateshead MSCP and North Bank of Tyne EZ.

3 **MINUTES OF THE INVESTMENT BOARD 11 MARCH 2021**

The minutes of the last meeting held on 11 March 2021 were approved as a correct record.

4 **MATTERS ARISING AND ACTIONS LOG**

The Action Log was noted and the following points were raised: -

Action 11/20-5 - Regarding SASMI and confirmation about the income flows, Gillian Hall pointed out that the Action Log stated it was complete and would be removed. The Investment Board was interested in making sure that the rental that Sunderland Council was getting back from the NHS/government in relation to the CESAM building was being used to support the SASMI building.

Paul Woods advised that he and Matt Ebbatson had received clarification from Sunderland about income that was being used on the SASMI building but he was not sure if it covered the point being made. Questions were asked about what income was available but not specifically relating to a cross subsidy.

ACTION 05/21-1 - Paul Woods would discuss this further with Gillian Hall after the meeting. The Chair asked that he be informed of the outcome.

Action 01/21-4 – regarding the Subsidy Control action the Chair thanked Craig Winter for the paper circulated this morning and stated that it was likely the action would be open for some time. Craig Winter stated that the document it was a very high level look at the position at this point of time and would need to be revisited as soon as there was output and more detail coming out of the consultation exercise.

The Chair asked if there was any specific advice that could be given to ports relating to subsidy control to ensure there was a shared good understanding. Action to remain open and Craig Winter to revisit the Subsidy Control note and any specific subsidy in relation to ports by the next meeting.

5 PROJECTS FOR APPROVAL BY INVESTMENT BOARD

(a) CPIF Pilot Project - Turbine Business Park

This report was strictly confidential as it contained commercial information relating to the financial or business affairs of a particular person or organisation and was not for wider circulation.

RESOLVED – That the Investment Board conditionally approved an award from the Getting Building Fund

(b) North Bank of Tyne Phase 1

This report was strictly confidential as it contained commercial information relating to the financial or business affairs of a particular person or organisation and was not for wider circulation.

This report provided the Investment Board with an updated position in relation to the North Bank of Tyne Enterprise Zone (EZ) application from Newcastle City Council (conditionally approved in January 2020). The project was now seeking to be taken forward in two phases.

RESOLVED – That the Investment Board conditionally approved an award from the Getting Building Fund

6 PROGRAMME UPDATES

(a) Getting Building Fund (GBF)

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RESOLVED - That the Investment Board:

- a) Subject to MHCLG approval, endorse the programme variations set out in Annex Two and that these be taken to the next full LEP Board meeting for approval with the recommendations as set out below.
 - 1) Support Programme entry for the Blyth Battleship Wharf heavy haul link road construction to NEP1 and invite the Port of Blyth to submit a full business case application.
 - 2) allocate £0.5m of GBF grant to the NEP1 Infrastructure funding, to replace the EZ borrowing approval last year, to minimize the projected deficit on the EZ account for this site.
 - 3) Allocate £3m additional GBF grant to the Commercial Property Pilot project, to fund additional projects that need to be completed by Spring 2022 and that the updated CIPF programme

business case considers options to help support the funding of additional works to help achieve net carbon zero buildings.

- 4) Re-allocate £0.73m to help fund a new Strategic Project Pipeline Acceleration Development Fund.
- 5) Allocate £140,942, to support the Nexus Ferry Landing project in North Shields, with an application invited via the planned Strategic Project Pipeline Acceleration Development Fund.

b) Note and comment on the matters raised in the report and annexes.

(b) Local Growth Fund (LGF)

This report was strictly confidential as it contained commercial information relating to the financial or business affairs of a particular person or organisation and was not for wider circulation.

RESOLVED – The Investment Board:

- 1) Noted and commented on the matters raised in the report.
- 2) Supported the grant funding agreement variation on the East Pilgrim Street proceeding to main Board for approval.

(c) North East Investment Fund (NEIF)

This report was strictly confidential as it contained commercial information relating to the financial or business affairs of a particular person or organisation and was not for wider circulation.

RESOLVED – That the Investment Board noted the contents of the report.

(d) Enterprise Zones (EZ)

This report was strictly confidential as it contained commercial information relating to the financial or business affairs of a particular person or organisation and was not for wider circulation.

RESOLVED – That the Investment Board:

- 1) noted the contents of the report;
- 2) agreed to receive further updates on options to minimise the risk of deficits on individual sites;
- 3) agreed to recommendations to the LEP Board are as noted in the report

ENVIRONMENTAL CRITERIA FOR INVESTMENTS

This report was strictly confidential as it contained commercial information relating to the financial or business affairs of a particular person or organisation and was not for wider circulation.

Further to the meeting of Investment Board and Executive Team Members on 8 April, an outline brief had been prepared for discussion on work that could suitably address environmental standards / Net Zero Carbon when the LEP considered capital investment in developments in the future. This report set out the scope of the proposed work.

RESOLVED – The Investment Board agreed to the proposal in principle, subject to a detailed paper coming back to a future meeting.

8 REGIONAL PROJECT PIPELINE DEVELOPMENT

This report was strictly confidential as it contained commercial information relating to the financial or business affairs of a particular person or organisation and was not for wider circulation.

This report summarised the work undertaken to date to develop a regional strategic project pipeline into a coherent, well recognised and co-owned regional resource that had visibility of priority projects and ensured the region was prepared for future government funding including national competitions. It built on the work undertaken by the North East LEP, local authorities, Transport North East (TNE) and other partners over the last year, and followed on papers taken to LA7 EDs and FDs in August and November 2020 and more recently in March and April 2021.

RESOLVED – That the Investment Board noted and commented on the matters raised in the report.

9 FORWARD PLAN

This report was strictly confidential as it contained commercial information relating to the financial or business affairs of a particular person or organisation and was not for wider circulation.

Noted.

10 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

The potential additional meeting scheduled for June was now not required and could be taken out of calendars.

11 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Thursday 8 July 2021, 2:00-4:30pm