

**To: Humber Leadership Board**

**From: Simon Green, Deputy Chief Executive – North Lincolnshire Council**

**Date: 1 October 2020**

**Subject: Humber Leadership Board - Enhanced Remit, Timeline and Associated Resource need.**

**“The Tides that Bind”**

## **1. Background**

- 1.1 In 2018, Central Government revised their thinking on the role and geographical scope of Local Enterprise Partnerships. Some LEPs had overlapping boundaries with each other and one of the review's recommendations was to bring this to an end this and subsequently asked those Local Authorities that found themselves in two LEPs to choose one over another.
- 1.2 North and North East Lincolnshire Councils have subsequently decided to remain members of the Greater Lincolnshire LEP and withdraw membership from the Humber LEP.
- 1.3 As a result the remaining Local Authorities within the Humber LEP have reviewed how best to take this entity forward and have decided that a new Hull and East Riding LEP be formed from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2021.
- 1.4 To address those areas of activity where pan Humber collaboration is still crucial it was decided by the Local Authority leaders to accommodate these into an extended remit of the existing Humber Leadership Board.

## **2. Humber Leadership Board Enhanced Remit**

- 2.1 The HLB was formed in 2016 with its core membership being the leaders of the four Unitary Authorities that border the Humber Estuary and its remit being to oversee strategic issues of joint concern. To assist in this it has also been decided to co-opt the chairs of the two LEPs onto the board in a non-voting capacity.
- 2.2 The four Leaders of the Unitary Authorities along the Humber agreed to enhance the HLB remit to take on board the strategic leadership of the following specific four areas of activity:

- 1) Developing the Humber Ports and Manufacturing Clusters (notably Freeports)
  - 2) Accelerating clean growth in the energy estuary (De-Carbonisation Agenda)
  - 3) Managing the Humber Estuary Asset (Humber Strategy 2100)
  - 4) Attracting and delivering new investment
- 2.3 It is proposed within this paper that it also takes on an additional role of strategic oversight of the transition arrangements between the two LEP organisations

### **3. Proposed Structure**

- 3.1 It is proposed that to enable the effective and efficient operation of the HLB's new enhanced remit that a programme management approach is adopted. This will allow the HLB to have strategic capacity and oversight whilst also be aware of the performance of each of the new strands of activity. In addition, it will also utilise existing structures and assets thus also reducing costs and duplication.
- 3.2 Each new workstrand will establish and / or utilise existing structures where possible to feed progress into the Board with the board's role to take action on exception reporting and to agree strategic direction.
- 3.3 It is proposed that "CATCH" through their existing work with both HLEP through the Industrial Clusters work and representing over 30 private sector members along with project Aura is best placed to continue to lead on the de-carbonisation agenda. That for the Humber Strategy 2100 initiative the Environment Agency continue to lead on this initiative and again utilise existing structures. For both of these existing initiatives it is proposed that the respective project sponsor of the projects reports progress directly into the HLB. Local Authorities are already represented on their project and / or governance boards. As yet the nature and scope of the Free Port initiative is unknown but to ensure a successful bid the HLB will need to endorse a supporting structure and associated resource. At present, it is proposed to submit a collective pan Humber bid for a Humber Freeport.

### **4. Proposed Timeline**

| <b>October</b>   | <b>November</b>  | <b>December</b>             |
|--|--|-----------------------------|
| Formally agree new remit including Transition Board                    | Develop Freeport bid<br><br>Develop reporting lines and linkages | Agree resource implications |
| Formally establish links, develop reporting lines and linkages between | Agree sector group leads   |                             |

|   |  |  |
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| existing project boards<br>and the HLB    |  |  |
| Develop enhanced<br>resource requirements |  |  |
| Agree transition group<br>lead            |  |  |

| January          | February             | March   |
|------------------|----------------------|---|
| FP Bid submitted | Develop FP Structure | Complete transition<br>Complete sector<br>workstrand assimilation |

## 5. Resource Implications:

- 5.1 The secretariat function has successfully been undertaken through NELC and it is proposed to continue with that arrangement.
- 5.2 For the 3 sector workstrands of activity it is proposed that each of the remaining Local Authorities each take a lead to ensure single lead and point of contact along with avoiding duplication of resources and the ability to utilise assets appropriately behind each workstrand. It is proposed that this is met through existing resources.
- 5.3 To undertake the programme management role and enhanced marketing complementing the 3 key sectors it is envisaged that additional resources are needed to successfully manage this along with the ability to either commission work or have the relevant research capacity available in-house. Again, to ensure efficiency it is proposed that a lead Local Authority hosts this function.

## 6. Recommendations

- 6.1 That the HLB agree to and endorse the 3 sector workstrands and the programme management approach outlined.
- 6.2 That the HLB considers allocating a lead Authority to oversee “Transition”
- 6.3 That the HLB commissions in-house work to identify new resource requirements along the lines outlined.
- 6.4 That the HLB endorse the high-level timescale outlined in section 4.