

**MINUTES of the VIRTUAL MEETING OF THE
HUMBER LEADERSHIP BOARD
Held on 5th November, 2020**

Present:

<u>Hull City Council</u>	Cllr Stephen Brady
<u>East Riding of Yorkshire Council</u>	Cllr Richard Burton Cllr Mike Stathers
<u>North Lincolnshire Council</u>	Cllr Rob Waltham Cllr Richard Hannigan
<u>North East Lincolnshire Council</u>	Cllr Philip Jackson Cllr John Fenty
<u>Humber LEP</u> (observer)	Stephen Parnaby
<u>Greater Lincolnshire LEP</u> (observer)	Pat Doody

Officers	Rob Walsh – North East Lincolnshire Council Denise Hyde – North Lincolnshire Council Matt Jukes – Hull City Council Caroline Lacey – East Riding of Yorkshire Council Alan Menzies - East Riding of Yorkshire Council Simon Green – North Lincolnshire Council Clive Tritton – North East Lincolnshire Council Kishor Tailor – Humber LEP Richard Kendall – Humber LEP Ruth Carver – Greater Lincolnshire LEP Paul Windley – North East Lincolnshire Council
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HLB.9 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were no apologies for absence from this meeting.

HLB.10 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest in any items on the agenda for this meeting.

HLB.11 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the Humber Leadership Board meeting held on 1st October, 2020 were agreed as a correct record.

HLB.12 FREEPORTS UPDATE

The Board received a report providing an update on the establishment of Freeports.

Mr Tailor noted the efforts being made to develop a collaborative Humber bid for a freeport. Arup had been appointed as consultants to assist with this work and their representatives, Ms Krishanthi Carfrae and Mr Raghu Ramkumar, provided a presentation setting out the vision for the freeport and detailing the research that they had undertaken.

Mr Kendall summarised the report, noting that the really attractive part of the package was the provision of a 'super enterprise zone' with a broader range of incentives to attract inward investment. The key challenges included the need for a coherent focus given the number of different opportunities and having to work across so many different ports in the Humber area. The bidding process was expected to start towards the end of November 2020.

The Board discussed the ability to include a number of different sites and the Chair suggested that a letter be sent on behalf of the Board to the Government, noting the complex geography of the area and seeking support to not have to prioritise individual sites. It was noted that there was a potential to pool and share public sector uplift if there was an insistence on one site. Alongside the joint letter, it was felt that further work was required in preparing the bid, particularly in relation to providing evidence to support the wider approach.

Councillor Jackson welcomed the presentation and asked that the slides be circulated as he wanted to further examine the information presented.

The Board discussed inward investment and noted the importance of having the right infrastructure in place. It was also felt that a marketing strategy was vital. The Board also noted the importance of digital connectivity, innovation and transfer of skills to the local economy.

The Board felt that there was a need to have a strong role for businesses and it was suggested that all operators be brought together to reiterate this message. Mr Tailor noted that a working group had been established,

including those operators, and some thought needed to given as how to make connections from that group to this Board.

RESOLVED –

1. That the Humber Leadership Board's commitment to a joint bid for a Humber Freeport be reconfirmed, with businesses playing a prominent role.
2. That a letter be sent on behalf of the Humber Leadership Board to the Government, noting the complex geography of the area and seeking support to not have to prioritise individual sites within the joint bid.
3. That the Joint Strategy Unit be instructed to develop a set of appraisal criteria to enable the Humber Leadership Board to make a robust decision on which sites to put forward in the bid.

HLB.13 COLLABORATION THEMES – LOCAL AUTHORITY LEAD ROLES

The Board considered the appointment of lead roles to the three key areas of activity agreed at its previous meeting:

- 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)

It was suggested that principles be developed on how respective sector leads are chosen and consideration be given to how to best utilise private sector led organisations that already specialise within those sectors. It was agreed that progress on this would be reported back to the next meeting of this Board.

The Board further suggested that Member leads be appointed for each of the three key areas of activity.

RESOLVED – That a further update on the appointment of lead roles be received at the next meeting of this Board.

There being no further business, the Chair declared the meeting closed at 9.28 a.m.