

Committee:	Executive	Agenda Item No.:	15.
Date:	4 <sup>th</sup> April 2011	Category	
Subject:	Sheffield City Region Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) Membership	Status	Open
Report by:	Economic Development & Investment Manager		
Other Officers Involved			
Director	Director of Development		
Relevant Portfolio Holder	Councillor A. Tomlinson, Portfolio Holder for Regeneration		

### **RELEVANT CORPORATE AIMS**

REGENERATION – Developing healthy, prosperous and sustainable communities by providing sustainable business growth and employment opportunities

SOCIAL INCLUSION – Promoting fairness, equality and lifelong learning by providing the opportunity for inclusion of all individuals in employment and training opportunities

### **TARGETS**

Rd2 - Create 50 jobs through locally funded business support by March 2011

### **VALUE FOR MONEY**

Simplifying access to the funds for bidders e.g. combined European Regional Development Fund (ERDF), Regional Growth Fund (RGF) applications covering some/all SCR administrative areas.

## **THE REPORT**

### ***Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP)***

1. The Sheffield City Region LEP was included as one of the 'first round' announced in the White Paper 'Local growth: realising every place's potential' on 28<sup>th</sup> October 2010
2. James Newman has been appointed as the Chair of Sheffield City Region LEP Board. As the former Master Cutler he was instrumental in bringing together business leaders to prepare the LEP proposal. James has appointed 7 private sector board members to the LEP, to direct priorities and develop the Action Plans alongside the 7 public sector members (Appendix A).

### ***The Vision***

3. Our vision for the SCR is to make a greater contribution to the UK economy by having a local economy less dependent on the public sector, providing conditions for businesses to grow and by giving the nation its prime centre for advanced manufacturing and materials and low carbon industries. We will offer people a great place in which to live, work, invest, and visit.
4. The primary purpose of the SCR LEP is to rebalance the economy and stimulate private sector job growth by focussing on the following objectives to:
  - Support existing businesses to increase their competitiveness, productivity, exports and innovation
  - Make the SCR the area of choice for private sector investment and re-investment by promoting enterprise and harnessing economic opportunity
  - Create the workforce of tomorrow by developing an employer-led approach to delivering the skills the economy needs, with a focus on our key sectors.
5. The priorities for collective action endorsed the Board, focus on opportunities for joint working on economic growth, job creation and sector development, are:
  - **Establishing a National Growth Hub for Advanced Manufacturing and Materials** at the Advanced Manufacturing Park (AMP) at Waverley to drive growth in key sectors in the city region and rest of the UK.
  - **Delivering a new, employer-led approach to improving workforce skills focussing on key sectors.** The objective here is to bring together employers, schools, colleges, academies and universities to simplify the training offer. An early initiative will be to roll out the Advanced Engineering and Manufacturing apprenticeship scheme across the whole of the city region.
  - **Improving support for strategically important companies and potential inward investors.** Provide a City Region wide advice service to significant potential inward investors. First steps to be to set up a single enquiry point (for referral from UKTI), a database of market-ready sites, and of support services (including referral to private sector professional services firms).
  - **Setting up a new, simplified, private sector led business support service** which focuses on improving innovation in high growth businesses and priority sectors.
  - **Securing new forms of finance for businesses and infrastructure projects.** Create a range of new financial instruments and a sustainable investment fund, including establishing a JESSICA programme from ERDF, and Accelerated

Development Zones to allow prudential borrowing secured against future uplifts in business rates.

- **Developing a Digital Hub** to get the best out of existing assets, such as South Yorkshire Digital Region, for the whole city region by establishing a collaboration centre to foster innovation, a “boot camp” to help grow businesses, and a data storage centre.

### ***LEP Board Responsibilities.***

6. The LEP Board will establish a framework of groups/sub-boards, to lead the priority actions and outcomes.
7. A wide range of organisations and partnership groups will operate within the framework, under the leadership provided by the LEP which will meet monthly. Already established are ‘Transport’ including the South Yorkshire Integrated Transport Authority and the local transport authorities (Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire), and ‘Regeneration and Housing Joint Board’ with the Homes and Communities Agency to oversee strategic investment and strategic property assets.
8. The LEP Board will engage quickly with other LEP Boards, including the Nottingham/shire and Derby/shire LEP to identify areas for collaboration (as well as potential overlap) so that activity can be better coordinated to achieve optimum results.

### **ISSUES/OPTIONS FOR CONSIDERATION**

9. Membership of SCR will enable a collaborative approach with SCR LEP partners and is deemed to offer very significant benefit to Bolsover District Council including:
  - Geographic alignment to the Housing and Regeneration Board, with the Homes Communities Agency.
  - To promote a strategic approach to cross-boundary project activity, maximising flexibility in operation of the potential funds and outcomes in relation to job growth.
  - Simplifying access to the funds for bidders e.g. combined European Regional Development Fund (ERDF), Regional Growth Fund (RGF) applications covering some/all SCR administrative areas.
  - Sharing administrative and managerial tasks associated with the funds, thereby increasing efficiency and effectiveness.
10. The key to this work is to maximise resources already available within the SCR. Although public sector funds are reducing, there is still significant investment being made by local authorities and other partners across the economic agenda and we need to ensure that this is being maximised against the priorities set out above.

## **IMPLICATIONS**

**Financial:** The SCR LEP shall develop a new range of financial instruments such as JESSICA, Assisted Development Zones and tax increment financing (TIF), linked to future business growth. Regional Growth Fund bids have also been submitted for specific interventions.

A resource scoping study has been commissioned to maximise resources already available within the SCR. Although public sector funds are reducing, there is still significant investment (physical and financial) made by local authorities and other partners across the economic agenda. The study is intended to ensure that this is being maximised against the priorities set out above.

**Legal:** None

**Human Resources:** Officer time including the Chief Executive, Director of Development, Economic Development & Investment Manager, focused on delivering specific and targeted priorities for Bolsover.

## **RECOMMENDATIONS:**

- 1. To note the governance arrangements for the SCR including the SCR Board membership and Terms of Reference (Appendix A and B).**
- 2. That delegated power be given to the Leader to give Bolsover District Council's approval to the LEP Action Plans for the SCR for the period 2011-15, as appropriate.**
- 3. That the Standards Committee be recommended to include the delegation in the Members' Delegation Scheme in the Council's Constitution.**
- 4. That the Council agrees to full membership of the SCR LEP under the Terms of Reference (Appendix B), and delivery of the priorities set out in the Action Plans.**

## **REASON FOR DECISION TO BE GIVEN IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE CONSTITUTION**

To enable business investment to support growth in the local economy and encourage an entrepreneurial culture to maximise sustainable employment opportunities.

### **ATTACHMENTS:**

Appendix A - **SCR LEP BOARD**

Appendix B - **SCR LEP BOARD TERMS OF REFERENCE**

### **FILE REFERENCE:**

**SOURCE DOCUMENT:**

Appendix A. SCR LEP BOARD



Private Sector:

James Newman	Chairman	Chairman, Finance Yorkshire
Philip Bartey	Group Chief Executive	The Adsetts Partnership Ltd
Nigel Brewster	Managing Director	Sewell Moorhouse Recruitment Group, President, Doncaster Chamber of Commerce
Simon Carr	Managing Director	Henry Boot Construction
David Grey MBE	Group Managing Director	OSL Group Holdings
Chris Scholey	Ex Managing Director	Manufacturing Sector and Chairman of Doncaster and Bassetlaw NHS Foundation Trust
Lee Strafford	Co-founder and CEO	PlusNet PLC, Co-founder of Project Sheffield
Prof Philip Jones	Vice Chancellor	Sheffield Hallam University

Public Sector:

Cllr Stephen Houghton	Leader	Barnsley MBC
Cllr Mike Quigley	Leader	Bassetlaw DC
Cllr Ray Russell	Leader	Chesterfield BC
Cllr Eion Watts	Leader	Bolsover DC
Mayor Peter Davies	Mayor	Doncaster MBC
Cllr Graham Baxter	Leader	North East Derbyshire DC
Cllr Roger Stone	Leader	Rotherham MBC
Cllr Paul Scriven	Leader	Sheffield CC

**LOCAL ENTERPRISE PARTNERSHIP BOARD  
LEP BOARD TERMS OF REFERENCE**

**Terms of Reference**

Vision

1. Our vision is for the Sheffield City Region to make a greater contribution to the UK economy by having a local economy less dependent on the public sector, providing conditions for businesses to grow and by giving the nation its prime centre for advanced manufacturing and materials and low carbon industries. We will offer people a great place in which to live, work, invest, and visit.

Objectives

2. The primary purpose of the SCR LEP is to rebalance the economy and stimulate private sector job growth by focussing on the following objectives to:
  - a) Support existing businesses to increase their competitiveness, productivity, exports and innovation
  - b) Make the SCR the area of choice for private sector investment and re-investment by promoting enterprise and harnessing economic opportunity
  - c) Create the workforce of tomorrow by developing an employer-led approach to delivering the skills the economy needs, with a focus on our key sectors.

**Full Membership**

3. The LEP Board will comprise:
  - o a private sector Chair;
  - o 6 private sector members;
  - o a University Vice Chancellor.
  - o the Leaders and Mayor of seven local authorities (Barnsley, Bassetlaw, Bolsover, Chesterfield, NE Derbyshire, Rotherham, Sheffield and Doncaster);

## **Associate Membership**

4. Associate members comprise the local authorities of:
  - Derbyshire Dales DC
  - and the Peak District National Park Authority

The associate members have a right of representation on the LEP Leaders Group and on the LEP Chief Executives Group.

## **Modus operandi**

5. The LEP Board will meet once a month.
6. The Chair of the Sheffield City Region Chief Executives' Group will attend each meeting as an observer, along with a Chief Executive representative of the full members from North Derbyshire/North Nottinghamshire Districts.
7. A wide range of organisations and partnership groups will operate within the framework and under the leadership provided by the LEP. For transport, this will include the South Yorkshire Integrated Transport Authority, and the local transport authorities covering relevant parts of Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire. For regeneration and housing, this will include a new SCR Joint Board with the Homes and Communities Agency overseeing strategic investment and strategic property assets.
8. Other groups and potentially, sub boards, will be considered and established by the LEP Board as the priority actions and outcomes work is initiated.
9. The LEP Board will engage quickly with other LEP Boards as these are set up to identify areas for collaboration (as well as potential overlap) so that activity can be better coordinated to achieve optimum results.

## **Initial Operational approach 2011-2012**

10. **Annex A** attached also sets out six suggested priority actions and outcomes, excluding any infrastructure projects dependent on external funding at this stage. If agreed, these actions could then be allocated to a combination of private sector and appropriate public sector champions from the LEP.
11. In identifying how best to deliver on these proposed priorities, three approaches could be adopted, as described in our LEP submission in the summer:
  - a) the mobilisation of an existing private or public sector organisation to deliver;
  - b) the rationalisation and use of existing bodies and structures where there is a need for them to be more efficient and effective; or
  - c) the setting up of new delivery mechanisms if they do not exist, but only if absolutely necessary.