

LIVERPOOL CITY REGION COMBINED AUTHORITY

PUBLICATION: 26 JULY 2019

DEADLINE FOR CALL-IN: 2 AUGUST 2019

FOLLOWING THE CALL-IN PERIOD, DECISIONS INCLUDED IN THESE MINUTES MAY THEN BE IMPLEMENTED WHERE THEY HAVE NOT BEEN SUBJECT TO A CALL-IN.

*** DENOTES KEY DECISION**

At a meeting of the Liverpool City Region Combined Authority held in the Authority Chamber - No.1 Mann Island, Liverpool, L3 1BP on Friday, 26th July, 2019 the following Members were

P r e s e n t:

Metro Mayor S Rotheram
Chairperson of the Combined Authority
(in the Chair)

Mayor J Anderson OBE, Councillor D Baines, Councillor P Hackett, Mr A Hamid MBE, Councillor I Maher, Councillor S Donnelly (Substitute Member for Councillor G Morgan), Councillor R Polhill, Councillor L Robinson and Councillor C Mitchell (Substitute Member for Councillor R Bowden).

Deputy Portfolio Holders

Councillor C Thomas, Policy, Reform and Resources
Councillor P Sinnott, Education, Employment and Skills

Mayoral Advisors

B Spicer, Social Housing Growth

34. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received on behalf of Councillor G Morgan, Rt Hon Jane Kennedy, Councillor R Bowden, Councillor I Moran, Councillor K Groucutt, Councillor G Wood, Councillor T Hardy, Councillor L Robertson-Collins, Councillor N Nicholas, Councillor E Spurrell, G Ben-Tovim, Professor Dame J Beer and Reverend Canon Dr E Loudon.

35. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Metro Mayor S Rotheram reported that Bob Pratty, Chief Executive of ACC Liverpool and Reverence Bill Addy, Priest at Our Lady and St Nicholas Church, Liverpool were both unwell and on behalf of the LCR Combined Authority he wished them a speedy recovery.

Metro Mayor S Rotheram also offered his condolences to Councillor G Wood, Deputy Portfolio Holder: Energy and Renewables who had suffered a bereavement.

With regards to Item 17, Liverpool City Region Combined Authority Final Accounts 2018/19. Metro Mayor S Rotheram advised that the External Auditors were not in a position to submit the final report for consideration and as such this item would be deferred to a future meeting.

Metro Mayor S Rotheram welcomed Dwayne Johnson, newly appointed Chief Executive of Sefton Metropolitan Borough Council and Paul Satoor, newly appointed Interim Chief Executive of Wirral Metropolitan Borough Council to the LCR Combined Authority.

36. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

It was reported that no Declarations of Interest had been received.

37. MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE LCR COMBINED AUTHORITY HELD ON 28 JUNE 2019

RESOLVED – That the minutes of the LCR Combined Authority held on 28 June 2019 be approved as a correct record.

38. LIVERPOOL CITY REGION METRO MAYOR ANNOUNCEMENTS AND UPDATES

Metro Mayor S Rotheram provided Members with an update on activity and key developments since the last meeting of the LCR Combined.

Metro Mayor S Rotheram reported that Liverpool City Region Pride was to be held on Saturday 27 July 2019 and he would be proudly joining the LGBT+ community to celebrate in what was a fun, colourful and enjoyable day to celebrate love, diversity and progress. He reflected upon the death of Michael Causer as a result of a homophobic attack which had been the catalyst for the Pride festival being held in the City Region. He also informed Members that he would be speaking at Michael Causers vigil and stressed the importance of continuing to support diversity issues and was proud that the LCR Combined Authority were supporting the festival and drew attention to the Pride lanyards staff had been wearing in the week leading up to Pride and that Liverpool City Council were also sponsoring the festival.

Metro Mayor S Rotheram informed the LCR Combined Authority that he had visited St Helens and celebrated the completion of the Windle Island junction works which would improve pedestrian safety. He had then visited Langtree Park to support St Helens Metropolitan Borough Councils bid to bring Glass Futures. He advised that Glass Futures could be transformational for St Helens by bringing glass manufacturing back to its natural home in a 21st century setting with advanced manufacturing, apprenticeships and supporting the City Region's pledge to achieve net zero carbon for energy use.

The Metro Mayor reflected upon Lord Heseltine's recently launched report which was entitled 'Empowering English Cities'. The report focused on the need for further powers to be given to Combined Authorities and Metro Mayors and remarked, according to Lord Heseltine that devolution had been held back by Brexit. Metro Mayor S Rotheram informed the LCR Combined Authority that he had responded to the report by saying that the whole point of devolution was that decisions would be informed by specific, local circumstances as Combined Authority's knew their areas better than Whitehall which led to the decision in 2015 to seek devolution for the

Liverpool City Region. He highlighted how the previous Government had been resistant to consider further devolution ASKs and hoped that the new Prime Minister would support further devolution.

Metro Mayor S Rotheram referred to the outcome of the Conservative Party Leadership election and the announcement that Boris Johnson had been appointed as Prime Minister. He expressed concern regarding the appointment of a Cabinet which overwhelmingly supported leaving the European Union without a deal on 31 October 2019. He indicated that this position was a huge concern for all in the City Region, as the Treasury's own analysis had suggested a 9.3% drop in the North West GVA as a result of a no-deal Brexit.

Metro Mayor S Rotheram further reported that the analysis didn't take into account the interconnectedness of supply chains and the exposure of sub-regions, such as the Liverpool City Region, whose economic strengths were based on manufacturing. Furthermore, as 60% of the City Region's exports were to the European Union, analysis from the University of Sussex provided a conservative estimate of 15,000 job losses in the City Region in the event of no deal. He explained that as elected Leaders they had a responsibility to protect the people of the City Region from such economic harm. Therefore, he would be writing to the newly appointed Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster who had responsibility for the Government's No Deal preparations, to invite him to the City Region to meet with Elected Leaders, Business and Trade Unions to discuss the City Region's specific challenges and how the Government could support the area.

In conclusion, Metro Mayor S Rotheram reported that the Annual Conversation with Government had taken place and had been well received and recognition that the City Region was making huge progress.

39. HOUSEHOLDS INTO WORK: YEAR TWO DELIVERY UPDATE

The LCR Combined Authority considered a report of the Portfolio Holder: Education, Employment and Skills and the Director of Policy and Strategic Commissioning which reported on the delivery of Households into Work programme and identified key conclusions.

Metro Mayor S Rotheram referred to Councillor I Maher, the previous Portfolio Holder, for his work in overseeing the development of the programme and the innovative approach to helping people with significant difficulties with multiple complex needs into employment.

Mayor J Anderson OBE, Portfolio Holder: Education, Employment and Skills, reported that the Devolution Deal had provided the ability to introduce a welfare to work programme. He reported that there had been a strong desire to address inclusive growth and support families and individuals who want to return to work. He highlighted how this was a complex task and the programme had subsequently made a significant impact on people's lives. Whilst the financial impact was difficult to identify there was an immense social impact from the programme. The programme had evidenced how through a number of interventions the complex needs of people could be supported. In conclusion, Mayor J Anderson OBE advised that the final conclusions would be submitted to Government with a request for further funding to continue the Households into Work programme. He suggested that the City Region should adopt a Households into Work approach to a wider spectrum of projects.

Metro Mayor S Rotheram invited two people who had participated and benefitted from the programme, Emma and Michael, to say a few words about their experience.

Michael explained that he had been on the programme for 5 months and at first he was slightly nervous as he didn't think the programme was for him. However, through the Pathways Star Michael had witnessed first-hand the progress he had made which motivated him to consider employment opportunities. As such he had secured a part time job at Liverpool One, had purchased a bike to help him get to work and was looking to support his children.

Emma had been on the programme for 10 months. Previously to this, she had participated in other programmes where support had been promised but had not materialised so she was hesitant about participating in the programme, however, she soon realised that this programme would provide her with the support and training opportunities to pursue her dream job of becoming a personal trainer. Emma's mentor explained that she had left a violent relationship where she had not been allowed to leave the house or go to the gym, so her dream job felt impossible to reach. With a lot of hard work Emma had qualified as personal trainer in January 2019 and was about to start a sports massage course. She was pursuing self-employment opportunities and had booked a holiday for her and her daughter.

Metro Mayor S Rotheram thanked both Michael and Emma for sharing their stories and congratulated them both on the transformations they had made to their lives. He remarked on how a programme which offered rewards instead of punishments should be adopted nationally.

RESOLVED – That:-

- (i) the performance update on Households into Work though to March 2019 be noted; and
- (ii) the findings from the qualitative evaluation, and the impact that the services have had in supporting people in difficult circumstances be noted.

40. LOCAL INDUSTRIAL STRATEGY UPDATE

The LCR Combined Authority considered the report of the Director of Policy and Strategic Commissioning which presented a Liverpool City Region Local Industrial Strategy Position Statement: The Statement.

Kirsty Pearce, Director of Policy and Strategic Commissioning reported that the Local Industrial Strategy would set out the City Region's economic strengths and challenges and how they could be addressed. It would also identify emerging priorities and actions which maybe needed to take to tackle economic challenges. To test the evidence set out in the Strategy a number of stakeholder events had been arranged and broader public consultation would also be undertaken to test the evidence with members of the public across the City Region.

Mr A Hamid, Portfolio Holder: Business and Brexit, welcomed the comprehensive document and the engagement of the LCR Local Enterprise Partnership and the business community in its further development.

RESOLVED – That:-

- (i) the report and the progress made thus far in the development of the Local Industrial Strategy's evidence base be noted;
- (ii) the Position Statement as set out in the Appendix along with the summary of evidence be endorsed; and
- (iii) the Combined Authority planned to submit the final Local Industrial Strategy to Government in early 2020, following an extensive engagement period and drafting process.

41. STRATEGIC INVESTMENT FUND: TOWER ROAD SOUTH

The LCR Combined Authority considered a report of the Portfolio Holder for Inclusive Economy and Third Sector and the Director of Commercial Development and Investment which sought approval to provide grant support to Peel Land and Property for the delivery of the Tower Road South office development in Wirral Waters.

Councillor P Hackett, Portfolio Holder: Inclusive Economy and Third Sector reported that Strategic Investment Funding of up to £3,000,000 was being sought for the Tower Road South office development which formed part of the wider Wirral Waters development. He set out the wider ambition of Wirral Council to deliver a Growth Plan, which would seek to transform the Wirral waterfront.

RESOLVED – That:-

- (i) the provision of grant funding of up to £3,000,000 for Tower Road South be approved; and
- (ii) delegated authority be granted to the Director of Commercial Development and Investment to finalise negotiations of the funding terms and associated agreements in consultation with the Combined Authority Monitoring Officer and Combined Authority Treasurer.

42. LIVERPOOL CITY REGION TOWN CENTRE FUND

The LCR Combined Authority considered the report of the Portfolio Holder: Inclusive Economy and Third Sector and Director of Commercial Development and Investment which sought approval to award £6m of Strategic Investment Funding to support the viability and vitality of identified town centres via the establishment of the Town Centre Fund.

Metro Mayor S Rotheram, advised Members that, subject to approval, each constituent Local Authority, could submit a bid of up to £1,000,000 to support the regeneration of a town centre in their area.

Councillor P Hackett, Portfolio Holder: Inclusive Growth and Third Sector, reported that the Fund would seek to support transformational ideas and schemes in town centres across the City Region.

Councillor S Donnelley, Deputy Leader, Knowsley MBC welcomed the Town Centre Fund and explained how the funding would support the regeneration of

Huyton and Prescot Town Centres. He also hoped that further funding opportunities would be available to support the re-development of Kirby Town Centre in the future.

RESOLVED – That:-

- (i) the provision of grant funding of up to £6,000,000 from the Strategic Investment Fund, awarding each constituent Local Authority up to £1,00,000 be approved;
- (ii) the award of grant to each constituent Local Authority is conditional on the satisfactory completion of a detailed Action Plan for each identified town centre. The internal Investment Panel will review and approve the Action Plans; and
- (iii) delegated authority be granted to the Director of Commercial Development and Investment to finalise negotiations of detailed funding terms and associated agreements in consultation with the Combined Authority Monitoring Officer and Combined Authority Treasure.

43. EUREKA! THE NATIONAL CHILDREN'S MUSEUM, SEACOMBE

The LCR Combined Authority considered the report of the Portfolio Holder: Inclusive Economy and Third Sector and the Director of Commercial Development and Investment which sought approval to commit up to £6,642,000 of Strategic Investment Fund grant funding to support the development of the Eureka! Mersey museum at Seacombe Ferry Terminal.

Metro Mayor S Rotheram remarked upon the fantastic opportunity this development would bring to Seacombe and noted that this was a highly ambitious project and was enthusiastic to see the project develop.

Councillor P Hackett, Portfolio Holder: Inclusive Economy and Third Sector, reported that Eureka! Mersey was a science focused museum and which required £12,000,000 and was seeking £6,642,000 from the Strategic Investment Fund. Eureka! Mersey would be based at the current Spaceport location in Seacombe, it demonstrated Good Value for Money and they had also been engaging children from local schools to design the Museum.

RESOLVED – That:

- (i) agreed to determine the decision in accordance with the requirements set out in Part 4, Section B, paragraph 14 of the Combined Authority Constitution, namely Notice of a Key Decision Special Urgency;
- (ii) grant support of up to £6,642,000 for the Eureka! Mersey project be approved; and
- (iii) authority be delegated to the Director of Commercial Development and Investment to finalise negotiations of detailed funding terms and associated agreements in consultation with the Combined Authority Monitoring Officer and Combined Authority Treasurer.

44. REVISED NATIONAL GROWTH LOCAL ASSURANCE FRAMEWORK

The LCR Combined Authority considered a report of the Portfolio Holder for Inclusive Growth and Third Sector and Director of Commercial Development and Investment which sought approval of the revised Local Assurance Framework (LAF), for both the LCR Combined Authority and the LCR Local Enterprise Partnership, following receipt of feedback from various Government Departments.

RESOLVED – That:-

- (i) The revised National Growth Local Assurance Framework as amended in the report be adopted;
- (ii) Delegated authority be granted to the Director of Commercial Development and Investment or his nominee to make any minor amendments prior to its submission to the Cities' and Local Growth Unit within MHCLG; and
- (iii) Jill Coule, Chief Legal Officer and Monitoring Officer be appointed on a temporary basis as one of the LCR Combined Authority Non-Executive Directors to the LEP Delivery Company from September 2019.

45. REQUESTED CHANGES TO PREVIOUSLY AGREED SIF PROJECTS

The LCR Combined Authority considered a report of the Portfolio Holder for Inclusive Growth and Third Sector and the Director of Commercial Development and Investment which requested approval to a number of change requests submitted by applicants in relation to previously approved Strategic Investment Fund projects.

Mark Bousfield, Director of Commercial Development and Investment, reported that there were two previously agreed Strategic Investment Fund projects which required exceed the material changes as set out in the LCR Combined Authority Constitution and required approval from the LCR Combined Authority.

The changes related to the Speke Training and Education Centre (STEC) set out paragraphs 3.3 – 3.5 and Paddington Village set out at paragraphs 3.6 – 3.7 of the report now submitted.

RESOLVED – That:-

- (i) the changes requested by the applicant Speke Training and Education Centre Limited as set out in paragraphs 3.2- 3.5 of the report be agreed;
- (ii) the changes requested by the applicant Liverpool City Council as they relate to Paddington Village set out in paragraph 3.6-3.7 of the report be agreed; and
- (iii) some SIF projects changes will be brought for determination as not all project changes will readily fit into the newly agreed change control criteria.

46. MERSEY TIDAL PROJECT UPDATE - PHASE TWO

The LCR Combined Authority considered the report of the Portfolio Holder: Low Carbon and Energy Renewables and Director of Commercial Development and Investment which provided an update on phase two of the Mersey Tidal project and the development of the Outline Business Case (OBC).

Mark Bousfield, Director of Commercial Development and Investment, reported that the Tidal programme provided a global opportunity to utilise the untapped energy resource of the Mersey to delivery energy production and also look to export this energy production too.

Members were informed that as a consequence of the shallow waters, high tidal range and wind power of the Liverpool Bay it could potentially power four times the total power generated by the existing wind farms in the Liverpool bay area. Furthermore, the opportunity of developing and implementing the Tidal programme was significant for both the City Region and UK PLC. In conclusion, it was noted that the programme would be informed by an evidence based best practise approach.

Councillor R Polhill, Portfolio Holder: Low Carbon and Renewable Energy welcomed the exciting opportunity the Tidal project would bring to the City Region. He reported that the Outline Business Case for the project was in the early stages of development and Dr Shaun Benzon had been appointed as the Head of Tidal Project Development. In addition a consortium of external advisors had been appointed to develop the Outline Business Case. In conclusion, Councillor Polhill, reiterated how is successful, the tidal project would support the LCR Combined Authority's climate emergency pledge.

Metro Mayor S Rotheram referred to the press release from John McDonnell MP, Shadow Chancellor of the Exchequer, which reported that a future Labour Government would fully fund the development and delivery of the Mersey Tidal project. As this formed part of the Labour Party's environment commitment and it was also recognised that the project could generate export opportunities and would also fulfil the commitment of the City Region to be net zero carbon by 2040.

RESOLVED – That:-

- (i) the progress since the last update be noted; and
- (ii) the LCR Combined Authority act as ambassadors for the project as development of the Outline Business Case progresses and stakeholder engagement increases.

47. APPROVAL OF THE ASSERTIVE OUTREACH PROCUREMENT

The LCR Combined Authority considered a report of the Director of Policy and Strategic Commissioning and Portfolio Holder: Housing and Spatial Framework which sought approval for awarding the Assertive Outreach contract prior to the named provider being identified following the procurement process.

Kirsty Pearce, Director of Policy and Strategic Commissioning, reported that the Assertive Outreach programme was a needs lead approach which would develop pathways into Housing First by seeking to reduce rough sleeping and improving access to health care and promoting social inclusion. The programme had been developed in conjunction with the six constituent Local Authorities and Public Health.

RESOLVED – That:-

- (i) the progress made to date in the development of the Trailblazers programme and development of the LCR Assertive Outreach specification that has been developed with all 6 Local Authority's be noted; and
- (ii) delegated authority be granted to the Director of Policy and Strategic Commissioning, Monitoring Officer and Treasurer to approve the awarding of the Assertive Outreach contract following the conclusion of the procurement process.

48. TRANSFORMING CITIES FUND - LCR WALKING AND CYCLING NETWORK PHASE 1

The LCR Combined Authority considered the report of the Director of Commercial Development and Investment and Portfolio Holder: Transport and Air Quality which sought approval to commit up to £4,800,000 of Transforming Cities Funding (TCF) for the first phase of the commissioned LCR cycle network.

Councillor L Robinson, Portfolio Holder: Transport and Air Quality, reported that the LCR cycle network proposals were exciting and drew Members attention to the maps in Appendix 2 – SIF Panel paper which demonstrated the scale of the ambition of the proposals enabling cyclists to ride from Speke to Southport, Seacombe to Eastham, St Helens to Prescot and Widnes through to Runcorn. He concluded that this first project was a great start to the vision of embedding active travel as part of resident's daily lives.

RESOLVED – That:-

- (i) the full business case with provision of grant support of £4,800,000 for the LCR cycle network be approved; and
- (ii) authority be granted to the Director of Commercial Development and Investment to finalise negotiations of detailed terms of the funding and associated agreements in consultation with the Combined Authority Monitoring Officer and the Combined Authority Treasurer.

49. APPROVAL TO DISBURSE ADDITIONAL FUNDING TO SUPPORT THE DEVELOPMENT OF TRANSPORT FEASIBILITY STUDIES

The LCR Combined Authority considered a report of the Director of Integrated Transport and the Portfolio Holder: Transport and Air Quality which related to a Feasibility Study Project, which was set up in 2017, to take forward a list of 12 proposed major transport schemes for development towards Outline Business Case (OBC) stage.

RESOLVED – That:-

- (i) the £3,200,000 of legacy funding that is available in the current financial year to support the pre-development and testing of longstanding transport proposals and which supplements existing SIF development funding be noted;

- (ii) the disbursement, in 2019/20, of assigned Strategic Priorities budget resources to support advancement towards Outline Business Case stage of the 8 projects identified in Table 1 of the report now submitted, with the remaining budget being allocated as per Table 2 in the report now submitted be agreed;
- (iii) candidate schemes seeking further funding to either progress further pre-development works, or else be considered as candidates for further development funding or candidates for delivery would be managed as part of the Strategic Investment Fund (SIF) process or else as part of agreed external funding bids, on a “without prejudice” basis be noted; and
- (iv) a work programme/business case be developed to investigate the modernisation of traffic signals and bus responders across the City Region (to be progressed through SIF Pre-Development application process, as prepared through Key Route Network (KRN) Group).

50. BUS REFORM PROJECT UPDATE

The LCR Combined Authority considered a report of the Director of Corporate Resources and Portfolio Holder: Transport and Air Quality which provided an update on the development of the business case for assessing the options for delivery of bus services in the Liverpool City Region.

Matt Goggins, Head of Bus, reported that bus services were critical to the City Region as they addressed social isolation, improved air quality and reduced congestion, however, this was reliant on an attractive and comprehensive bus alternative to the car. He reported that the Bus Services Act provided three options for the future delivery of bus services which included Franchising, an Enhanced Partnership or a continuation of the existing LCR Bus Alliance. All three of the options were being assessed and were being informed by the Bus Strategy and the outcome from the Metro Mayor’s Big Bus debate public consultation, which had provided clear themes for bus improvement.

RESOLVED – That:-

- (i) the content of the report be noted; and
- (ii) the principles of the Vision for Bus be approved.

51. LIVERPOOL CITY REGION COMBINED AUTHORITY FINAL ACCOUNTS 2018/19

This item was deferred to a future meeting.

52. COMBINED AUTHORITY APPOINTMENTS

The LCR Combined Authority considered the report of the Chief Executive which recommended a number of appointments to the LCR Combined Authority and the Transport Committee.

RESOLVED – That:-

- (i) Paul Corcoran be appointed as the Deputy Portfolio Holder: Business and Brexit;
- (ii) Councillor Christopher Rowe be appointed to the Transport Committee; and
- (iii) Councillor Joann Kushner be appointed to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

53. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

Metro Mayor S Rotheram reported that no public questions had been submitted.

54. PETITIONS AND STATEMENTS

Metro Mayor S Rotheram reported that no petitions or statements had been submitted.

55. MINUTES OF THE TRANSPORT COMMITTEE HELD ON 13 JUNE 2019

RESOLVED – That the minutes of the Transport Committee held on 13 June 2019 were received and confirmed by the Liverpool City Region Combined Authority.

Minutes 34 to 55 be received as a correct record on the 6th day of September 2019.

Chairperson of the Combined Authority

(The meeting closed at 1.47 pm)