

LIVERPOOL CITY REGION COMBINED AUTHORITY

PUBLICATION: 29 APRIL 2022

DEADLINE FOR CALL-IN: 6 MAY 2022

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, 29th April, 2022 the following Members were

P r e s e n t:

Mayor Steve Rotheram
Chairperson of the Combined Authority
(in the Chair)

Members of the LCR Combined Authority

Councillor Janette Williamson, Leader of Wirral MBC and Portfolio Holder: Inclusive Economy & Third Sector

Councillor David Baines, Leader of St Helens MBC and Portfolio Holder: Climate Emergency and Renewable Energy

Asif Hamid MBE, Chair: LCR Local Enterprise Partnership and Portfolio Holder: Business Support

Councillor Ian Maher, Leader of Sefton MBC and Portfolio Holder: Digital Connectivity and Inclusion

Councillor Graham Morgan, Leader of Knowsley MBC and Portfolio Holder: Housing and Spatial Framework

Councillor Mike Wharton, Leader of Halton BC and Portfolio Holder: Culture, Tourism and the Visitor Economy

Co-opted Members

Councillor Liam Robinson, Chairperson of the Transport Committee and Portfolio Holder: Transport and Air Quality (Non-Voting Member)

Deputy Portfolio Holders

Councillor Gillian Wood, Deputy Portfolio Holder: Climate Emergency and Renewable Energy

Councillor Carla Thomas, Deputy Portfolio Holder: Policy, Reform and Resources

Councillor Louise Whitley, Deputy Portfolio Holder: Education, Skills, Equality and Diversity

Councillor Gordon Friel, Deputy Portfolio Holder: Transport and Air Quality

140. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received on behalf of:

LCR Combined Authority

Mayor Joanne Anderson, Mayor of Liverpool City Council and Portfolio Holder for Education, Skills, Equality and Diversity

Associate Member

Councillor Ian Moran, Warrington Borough Council

Co-opted Members

Emily Spurrell (Merseyside Police and Crime Commissioner).

Deputy Portfolio Holders

Councillor Kate Groucutt, Inclusive Economy and Third Sector

Councillor Trish Hardy, Housing and Spatial Framework

Councillor Shelley Powell, Culture, Tourism and the Visitor Economy

Councillor Laura Robertson-Collins, Digital Connectivity and Inclusion

141. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest declared.

142. MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE LCR COMBINED AUTHORITY HELD ON 4 MARCH 2022

RESOLVED - The minutes of the meeting of the LCR Combined Authority held on 4 March 2022 were agreed as a correct record.

143. LIVERPOOL CITY REGION METRO MAYOR ANNOUNCEMENTS AND UPDATES

Metro Mayor Steve Rotheram provided Members with an update on his recent activities and key developments since the last meeting of the LCR Combined Authority and in doing so welcomed Halton Borough Council's new Chief Executive, Stephen Young to his first Combined Authority meeting.

The Metro Mayor also reported that this would be the last meeting in which Deputy Portfolio Holder Councillor Louise Whitley would be in her role, explaining that she would be retiring as a Councillor and wished her all the best for the future.

The Metro Mayor explained that last month, he had joined the Mayor of Greater Manchester on the UK's first ever Mayoral trade mission to Ireland supported by the Department for International Trade. He reported that the delegation had received a tremendous reception whilst over there and were very kindly looked after by the President (the Uachtarán), the Taoiseach, the Tanaiste and members of the Irish government. The delegation had also visited Belfast and a number of innovative businesses which may present opportunities for collaborations in low carbon technologies. The Metro Mayor also noted that officers were continuing conversations with the businesses the delegation had met to identify potential future investment and trade opportunities and reciprocal meetings would be arranged in the North West later in the year.

The Metro Mayor reported that during March, the Good Business Festival had finally come to fruition as an 'in-person' event after so many false starts due to Covid. He praised the event recognising that it provided a fantastic opportunity to be able to meet with businesses 'face-to-face' and to put the focus of 'ethical business', at the heart of the discussions.

The Metro Mayor was equally very grateful that the Chief Constable and Police and Crime Commissioner had invited him to visit the brand-new Merseyside Police headquarters, which was a state-of-the-art workplace.

On the 18 March, the Metro Mayor and several hundred other people, had attended a memorial service in the Liverpool Anglican Cathedral to celebrate and remember the life of the late, great Gerry Marsden who sadly passed away in early 2021 during the covid lockdown. The Metro Mayor explained that Gerry was a close personal friend of his and also a fantastic ambassador for the City and City Region and he was dearly missed. The Metro Mayor explained that later this month the Ferry Terminal would be renamed after Gerry, in his honour.

Prior to the Memorial Service, the Metro Mayor had attended a demonstration outside the Port of Liverpool to show his support and solidarity with P&O workers who had been sacked without notice or consultation. The Metro Mayor hoped that the Government would carry out their threats to take legal action against P&O. He stated that these practices had absolutely no place in the City Region and that he would continue to advocate for those affected.

The Metro Mayor explained that the Innovation Prospectus had been launched in the Houses of Parliament on Tuesday 26 April and had been attended by a significant number of the City Region MPs. He thanked the MPs for their continued support in trying to encourage the Government to support the Innovation Pipeline.

The Metro Mayor reported that yesterday had also been a poignant date in the calendar - International Workers Memorial Day. This is a day when people pause, in remembrance of all those through history who had lost their lives at work. The Metro Mayor explained that the motto of Workers Memorial Day was: "remember the dead and fight for the living".

144. CONSTITUTION REVIEW

The LCR Combined Authority considered a report of the Monitoring Officer, which proposed several amendments following a comprehensive review of the Constitution.

Jill Coule, Chief Legal Officer and Monitoring Officer explained that the Constitution had been substantially reviewed, which had resulted in several amendments being proposed. Members attention was drawn to appendix one which set out provisions for dealing with Motions.

It was also reported that several other changes were being proposed which included:

- A delegation be given to the Monitoring Officer in consultation with the Metro Mayor or the Chair of the relevant Committee to approve the replacement of Members on either the Combined Authority or its Committees.
- Provision be included to cancel Combined Authority and Committee meetings by the Head of Paid Service in consultation with the Chair and the Monitoring Officer.

- In the absence of the Head of Paid Service the Executive Director Place (Deputy Chief Executive) will be able to exercise any delegation or power on behalf of/in place of the Head of Paid Service.
- Authority be delegated to the Audit and Governance Committee to sign off the Combined Authority's accounts.

RESOLVED – That:

- (a) the contents of the report and the Constitution as currently published be noted;
- (b) the provisions on Motions attached as Appendix 1 be approved;
- (c) the ongoing review of the Constitution be noted;
- (d) Appendix 1 to the Combined Authority to update the Standing Orders upon motions be approved;
- (e) the Standing Delegations to the Monitoring Officer (Part 3 Section G) as per paragraph 3.7 with regard to the process to handle replacement Members of the Combined Authority or any of its Committees be approved;
- (f) the proposed changes to the Constitution as set out in paragraphs 3.8 (cancellation of meetings) and 3.9 (absence of the Head of Paid Service) of this report be agreed;
- (g) the delegation to the Audit and Governance Committee in respect of the annual accounts as outlined in paragraph 3.11 be approved;
- (h) it be noted that further reports on the Constitution will be presented in the new municipal year to ensure that the Constitution reflects good practice and supports effective governance;
- (i) this Combined Authority supports the petition launched by ADSO and LLG on 5 January 2022 with regard to remote and hybrid meetings; and
- (j) the Metro Mayor write to the Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities calling upon the Government to change the law to allow Councils/ Combined Authorities the flexibility to hold such meetings when they deemed appropriate within agreed rules and procedures.

145. STAKEHOLDER SUB-COMMITTEE

The LCR Combined Authority considered a report of the Monitoring Officer which sought to establish a Sub-Committee of the Combined Authority, known as the Stakeholder Sub-Committee.

Jill Coule, Chief Legal Officer and Monitoring Officer reported that following a review of the Combined Authority's companies and subsidiary organisations it was felt appropriate that a Stakeholder Sub-Committee be established to provide primary oversight and scrutiny of the Companies and it would also be a Sub-Committee of the Combined Authority.

RESOLVED - That:

- (a) the establishment of a Stakeholder Sub-Committee be approved and the terms of reference for this Sub-Committee be included into the Combined Authority Constitution, as set out in Appendix 1 to this report; and
- (b) the February 2018 Lawyers in Local Government best practice guidance on the Governance of Local Authority Interests in Companies be noted, as set out in Appendix 2 to this report.

146. STRATEGIC INVESTMENT FUND (SIF) REQUEST FOR MATERIAL CHANGES TO PREVIOUSLY AGREED PROJECTS

The LCR Combined Authority considered a report of the Portfolio Holder for Inclusive Economy and Third Sector and the Executive Director of Investment and Delivery which sought approval to process material change controls in respect of the following previously agreed Strategic Investment Fund projects:

- Cambridge Road Project, Sefton
- A562 (Key Route Network), Liverpool
- Buckley Hill Brownfield Land Project, Sefton
- Walking and Cycling Project, Wirral
- Hydrogen Bus Trial Project, Merseytravel

RESOLVED - That:

- (a) the material change to the Cambridge Road Project in Sefton as indicated in paragraphs 3.1-3.3 be agreed;
- (b) the material change to the A562 (KRN) Project as requested by Liverpool City Council in paragraphs 3.4-3.8 be agreed;
- (c) the material change to the Buckley Hill Brownfield Land Project in Sefton as indicated in paragraphs 3.9-3.13 be agreed;
- (d) the additional grant funding for the Walking and Cycling Project as requested by Wirral Metropolitan Council in paragraphs 3.14-3.21 be approved;
- (e) the additional grant funding for the Hydrogen Bus Trial Project as requested by Merseytravel in paragraphs 3.22-3.28 be approved;
- (f) the change to the Everton Football Club Project in respect of the funding ask of the Combined Authority in paragraphs 3.29-3.32 be noted; and
- (g) delegated authority be granted to the Executive Director of Investment and Delivery in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Housing and Spatial Planning with regards to changes to projects delivered under the Social Housing Decarbonisation Fund in paragraphs 3.33-3.36 be agreed.

147. STRATEGIC INVESTMENT FUND – LCR ANGEL NETWORK

The LCR Combined Authority considered a report of the Portfolio Holder Inclusive Economy and Third Sector and Executive Director of Investment and Delivery which sought approval to award Strategic Investment Funding to support the development and delivery of the LCR Angel Network.

Councillor Janette Williamson explained that £500,000 of Strategic Investment Fund (SIF) revenue was sought to fund the LCR Angel Network project over a five-year timeline. The project would scale up the existing LCR Angel Network, which was currently managed by not-for-profit funder, Merseyside Special Investment Fund. Merseyside Special Investment Fund (MSIF) would also be matching the Combined Authority's investment with a further £500,000.

Councillor Williamson explained that Angel Investors provided crucial mentoring and equity finance for new and emerging entrepreneurial businesses. The project would establish a platform to convene, share and facilitate a diverse range of development opportunities with Angel investors. It would work closely with other economic recovery plan projects and other existing business support. The project would adopt industry best practice on diversity and inclusion following close collaboration with the UK Business Angel Association who were at the forefront of national policy in this

area. The project would create opportunities and eliminate barriers for both business leaders and Angel investors from under-represented groups in the Liverpool City Region.

Asif Hamid MBE supported the comments made by Councillor Williamson and explained that this project was a key priority for the City Region by bringing together both the MSIF and Growth Platform in a joined-up approach supported by the Combined Authority.

RESOLVED - That:

- (a) £0.5m from SIF Gainshare Revenue for the Project be approved; and
- (b) delegated authority be granted to the Executive Director of Investment and Delivery to finalise negotiations of detailed funding terms and associated agreements for the Project specified at (a) above in consultation with the Combined Authority Monitoring Officer and Executive Director of Corporate Services.

148. SKILLS BOOTCAMPS FUNDING

The LCR Combined Authority considered a report of the Portfolio Holder: Education, Skills Equality and Diversity and the Executive Director Investment and Delivery which sought approval to establish a dynamic purchasing system to disperse £8.1m of Department for Education (DfE) grant funding for the development of higher-level skills in growth sectors.

Councillor Louise Whitley (Deputy Portfolio Holder: Education, Skills Equality and Diversity) introduced the report and explained that the Combined Authority had been awarded funding from the DfE to deliver the rollout of Skills Bootcamps following the success of the Digital Skills Bootcamps. The Bootcamps targeted training in forecasted high growth sectors including green, construction, digital, rail and engineering and aimed to supply employers with the skills to grow or diversify. They were also targeted at people who were unemployed so that they could gain skills which would be in demand providing high value jobs and employment.

RESOLVED - That:

- (a) the implementation of a Dynamic Purchasing System (DPS) to act as the procurement vehicle for provider awards relating to Government Bootcamps funding be approved, in principle;
- (b) authority be delegated to the Executive Director Investment and Delivery, in consultation with the Monitoring Officer to approve successful awards from the procurement process on the DPS whilst requiring that an audit trail of all call-offs from the DPS and approvals of any award is maintained by the Procurement Department and the Skills & Apprenticeship, Digital Skills team respectively; and
- (c) authority be delegated to the Combined Authority Treasurer to finalise negotiations of detailed terms of the funding and associated agreements in consultation with the Combined Authority's Monitoring Officer and the Executive Director Investment and Delivery.

149. CITY REGION SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORT SETTLEMENTS AND LEVELLING UP FUND

The LCR Combined Authority considered a report of the Portfolio Holder for Transport and Air Quality and the Executive Director of Investment and Delivery which provided an update on the City Region Sustainable Transport Settlement (CRSTS) list of schemes development funding and resource requirements.

Councillor Liam Robinson reported that this settlement marked a key milestone for the Combined Authority in delivering its transport ambitions for the City Region and Members approval was sought to accept £710million from Government to deliver the City Region Sustainable Transport Settlement (CRSTS) programme.

Councillor Robinson explained that the Combined Authority had previously agreed the Highways Maintenance element of the CRSTS and confirmation of the full settlement would allow the Combined Authority to undertake a range of initiatives to help deliver a London-style transport system. Furthermore, Councillor Robinson also stated that the Combined Authority would also be submitting its Levelling Up Fund Business case which would fund bus, active travel and highways interventions in Liverpool, Sefton and Wirral.

RESOLVED - That:

- (a) funding from DfT of £710m for City Region Sustainable Transport Settlement (CRSTS) and £6,235,000 capacity funding for 2022/23 for the CRSTS programme be accepted;
- (b) funding from DfT of £37.52m which included £794,310.00 capacity funding to deliver Levelling Up Fund (LUF) schemes be accepted;
- (c) the development funding and resource requirements for CRSTS to facilitate programme development and delivery be approved;
- (d) submission of the Levelling Up for Recovery Business Case to Government be approved; and
- (e) authority be delegated to the Executive Director of Investment and Delivery in consultation with the Executive Director - Corporate Services, the Executive Director – Place, the Chief Legal Officer and the Portfolio Holder for Transport and Air Quality, to disburse funds and develop funding agreements to delivery partners, in order to award development funding to progress CRSTS and LUF schemes. Noting that all schemes seeking funding would be presented back to the Combined Authority for consideration before capital funding was released.

150. NORTH WEST ENERGY HUB

The LCR Combined Authority considered a report of the Portfolio Holder Climate Emergency and Renewable Energy and Executive Director of Investment and Delivery which sought approval for the transfer of the NW Energy Hub to the Combined Authority, rebranding and the allocation of additional funding from the Department of Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS).

Councillor David Baines advised that the report formalised the transfer of the newly renamed North-West Net Zero Hub from the Liverpool City Region Local Enterprise Partnership into the Combined Authority. The Hub had been funded by BEIS and the transfer to the Combined Authority aligned to the net zero pathway goals and emerging action plan. The Hub would continue to provide support not just for the six local authorities but also across the wider North-West helping to develop net zero projects and supporting funding bids.

RESOLVED - that:

- (a) the transfer of the North West Energy Hub from the Liverpool City Region Local Enterprise Partnership Growth Platform to the Combined Authority be approved;
- (b) the change of name to the North West Net Zero Hub be approved;
- (c) the change of focus and increased emphasis on zero carbon be noted;
- (d) a delegation to the Director of Investment and Delivery in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Climate Emergency & Renewable Energy and the Executive Director Corporate Services be approved to allocate core and any additional funding allocated from the Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS) for the North West Net Zero Hub, currently c£2.5m.

151. LCR FREEPORT FULL BUSINESS CASE

The LCR Combined Authority considered a report of the Portfolio Holder for Business Support and the Executive Director of Corporate Services which sought approval of the LCR Freeport Full Business Case.

John Fogarty, Executive Director Corporate Services, informed Members that the Full Business Case for the Freeport had been submitted to Government in accordance with Governments deadlines. The Business Case reflected the City Region's priorities and played into the region's strategic location facing westward towards North America and its connectivity as a region within the UK.

It was reported that as well as securing potential inward investment of a very high significant level, Freeport status would also protect the existing jobs and industries in the City Region. Furthermore, the Business Case emphasised the importance of seeking inward investment which supported inclusive growth and also contributed to the zero carbon targets.

Members were informed that the Business Case included a gateway process which would allow the Combined Authority to focus on key priority sectors, and high value employment opportunities. It would also enable the adoption of the Fair Employment Charter and a focus on social value, training and skills and the benefits of Freeport status would be felt across all communities within the City Region.

Mr Asif Hamid MBE stated that the Freeport provided the City Region with a unique opportunity to enhance the excellent value proposition it had got within its international investment and also its manufacturing export especially with the US and Canada which was the City Region's largest source of inward investment. The Freeport and the status of the City Region would attract global investment, and it could also be used as an opportunity to attract high value jobs. Furthermore, Mr Hamid MBE stressed the importance of ensuring that Freeport status enhanced the City Region's proposition to the world both in terms of IT infrastructure and artificial intelligence. He did appreciate that there had been concerns expressed around maintaining social value and sustainability, about standards in Freeport generally and job creation but he confirmed that he was committed to ensuring that Liverpool City Region Freeport would be a force for good.

Tom O'Brien, Chair of the Freeport Board, reaffirmed that as Chair he was committed to all points which had been raised and particularly in relation to creating quality jobs. He explained that a pathway would also be required in terms of skills and bringing people back into the labour market so that they could access the good jobs that

would be created. Furthermore, the Fair Employment Charter and social value would be used to make sure that this programme would be underpinned in the best possible way. He noted that the region would benefit from the resources of central government, and he therefore felt that it was appropriate that best use was made of those resources. However, he felt that it should also be fashioned so that it met the needs of all six local authorities and the City Region as a whole to make it a success for everyone. He recognised that this would be a challenge and he looked forward to engaging with all of the stakeholders over the coming months and years.

Councillor Maher expressed his deep concerns regarding the Freeport, in particular regarding the increased traffic in and around Seaforth Docks, particularly as this traffic route was already operating at full capacity. He stated that one of the disappointing issues regarding the Full Business Case was that there was no reference to any kind of traffic impact assessment having taken place. He reported that residents who lived along this particular traffic corridor and the surrounding area had some of the highest asthma incidents in the country. The level of traffic and resulting congestion for residents in and around Seaforth Docks was a significant issue for local people. Furthermore, Sefton Council were also concerned at the potential loss of income should businesses transfer elsewhere within the region because they had Freeport status.

Councillor Maher informed the Combined Authority that for these reasons he would not be supporting the recommendations and requested that his dissent to the recommendations be recorded.

RESOLVED - That:

- (a) the progress that had been made to date during the Freeport set-up phase be noted;
- (b) it be noted that a draft LCR Freeport Full Business Case (FBC) had already been submitted to Government and that this submission be endorsed;
- (c) the LCR Freeport FBC which was the next key milestone towards Freeport designation by Government for immediate submission to Government be endorsed; and
- (d) it be noted that feedback on the FBC was anticipated from Government by the end of August 2022.

Councillor Maher voted against the recommendations.

152. ACCEPTANCE AND ALLOCATION OF HOMELESSNESS FUNDING AND DELIVERY MODEL FOR HOUSING FIRST

The LCR Combined Authority considered a report of the Portfolio Holder for Housing and Spatial Framework and the Executive Director of Investment and Delivery which sought approval for the receipt and allocation of funding for Housing First, Rough Sleeping Accommodation Programme and Rough Sleeping Initiative 5.

Councillor Graham Morgan stated that the report set out how the Combined Authority would build on the excellent work to date on the existing Housing First Programme. He explained that over the last three years the local led approach had helped to provide affordable long-term accommodation to those who experienced rough sleeping, with over 200 individuals supported to date with accommodation but also with support to help them meet their wider ambitions in life.

Councillor Morgan explained how the next allocation of funding from the government would be used to extend this support over the next three years, which would help broaden the reach of the support and continue to make a real difference to lives across the City Region.

Dr Aileen Jones, Executive Director Investment and Delivery, stated that this report related to three different strands of homelessness funding. The first was seeking approval to accept, subject to confirmation from Government, £8.8m of funding to continue the delivery of the Housing First Programme until March 2025.

The report also sought approval to accept £627,000 for the continued delivery of the Assertive Outreach Service across the City Region which provided vital support to people who were rough sleeping and it also helped to improve their health and housing outcomes providing risk reduction, health and related services.

In December 2021, the Combined Authority had secured £1.5m capital funding alongside £1.1m revenue through the Rough Sleeping Accommodation Programme. The funding had helped to purchase 16 properties and much needed one bedroomed properties for rough sleepers and for those people at risk of rough sleeping across the City Region. The report was seeking to use the £1.1m revenue to fund intensive support to the tenants of those properties through a competitive tendering process.

RESOLVED - That:

- (a) grants of up to £8,855,456 from Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (DLUHC) including £5,933,511 to continue the Housing First Programme to March 2024, and a further £2,573,626 through the Rough Sleeping Initiative (RSI) Fund to continue the programme to March 2025, subject to confirmation by Government that such funding be approved be accepted;
- (b) the continuation of direct delivery of the Housing First programme through the Combined Authority and in partnership with Local Authorities be approved;
- (c) the acceptance of up to £627,004 through the Rough Sleeping Initiative 5 programme and allocates £502,864 to commission the delivery of the service in Halton, Knowsley and St Helens be approved;
- (d) the commissioning of complex support for individuals to be housed in properties purchased through the Resonance Homelessness Fund, to be funded from the Rough Sleeping Accommodation Programme revenue funding of £1.1m which was accepted by the Combined Authority in January 2022 be approved; and
- (e) the delegated decision (DD) making system be utilised to award the Liverpool City Region Assertive Outreach contract following completion of the procurement process and DLUHC funding confirmation, noting that the DD system required the approval of the Monitoring Officer and the Combined Authority's Treasurer, thereby ensuring service delivery was not disrupted.

153. LIVERPOOL CITY REGION CYCLE COUNTER REPLACEMENT PROGRAMME

The LCR Combined Authority considered a report of the Portfolio Holder Transport and Air Quality and the Executive Director of Place which sought approval for the appointment of the successful bidder to provide new cycle counters and associated works to replace the existing end of life network of automatic cycle counters across all six Constituent Authorities.

Councillor Liam Robinson stated that the City Region had been monitoring cycle usage with automated equipment at several different locations since 2006. As a number of those pieces of equipment were now reaching the end of its natural life consideration was being given as to how it could be renewed. As part of that equipment was no longer manufactured it now seemed to be an opportune time to look at the supplier agreements in place and to renew that equipment. The report was seeking approval for a single supplier framework that each of the six district authorities could come to individual arrangements with to renew equipment across the region over the years ahead.

RESOLVED - That:

- (a) the provision by the Combined Authority of a single supplier framework agreement for a period of 2 years (plus up to 2 x 1 year extensions) commencing in February 2022 be approved, with an upper limit on the contract value of £3,000,000,) to replace the existing network of obsolete cycle counters across the LCR be approved;
- (b) it be noted that the six Combined Authority's Constituent Authorities would individually enter into contractual arrangements with the successful bidder under the framework contract to carry out any works.

154. STRATEGIC INVESTMENT FUND - KINGS DOCK, LIVERPOOL

The LCR Combined Authority considered a report of the Portfolio Holder for Inclusive Economy and Third Sector and the Executive Director of Investment and Delivery which sought approval to provide repayable support grant of SIF to Liverpool City Council for consultancy activities in respect of the proposed master planned design and sale of seven sites at Kings Dock, Liverpool.

Councillor Janette Williamson stated that the report recommended the provision of £1m of investment from SIF to create detailed development plans for the Kings Dock on Liverpool waterfront. It was reported that the City Council owned seven plots around the dock and wanted to ensure that there was a high quality of development on this site. It was currently anticipated that the plots could provide up to 700 homes as well as commercial and leisure uses complementary to existing development on the waterfront. The funding would allow the City Council to undertake design work including master planning, the necessary site investigations prior to identifying partner(s) to take these plans forward. Furthermore, under the proposed approach the Council would retain control over the quality of future developments.

RESOLVED - That:

- (a) the provision of repayable assistance of up to £1,000,000, from the Strategic Investment Fund ("SIF") in support of master plan and design work, in advance of the phased sale to third parties of each of 7 sites at Kings Dock, Liverpool be approved;
- (b) delegated authority be granted to the Executive Director of Investment and Delivery to finalise negotiations of detailed funding terms and associated agreements in consultation with the Monitoring Officer and the Executive Director of Corporate Services.

155. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

There were no questions submitted by members of the public.

156. PETITIONS AND STATEMENTS

There were no petitions or statements received.

157. EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

RESOLVED - That members of the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the under-mentioned items of business on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as contained in Paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, as amended by the Local Government (Access to Information)(Variation) Order 2006.

158. BRINGING MERSEYRAIL NEW FLEET INTO SERVICE

The LCR Combined Authority considered a report of the Portfolio Holder Transport and Air Quality and the Executive Director Corporate Services which sought approval to a number of variations to the original business case for the new fleet which had been approved in November 2016.

RESOLVED - That:

- (a) the contents of this report be noted;
- (b) it be recognised that the impact of COVID and other factors on both the programme timetable and the operating environment had necessitated significant changes to the original business case;
- (c) a revised date into service for the first units of the new fleet of September 2022 be approved; and
- (d) the further recommendation set out in paragraph 6.1.11 of the report be approved.

159. ACTIVE TRAVEL CAPITAL FUNDING:

The LCR Combined Authority considered a report of the Portfolio Holder for Transport and Air Quality and the Executive Director of Corporate Services which sought approval for the acceptance of Local Authority Capital Fund 2021/22 and disbursement of funds across the six Constituent Authorities and Merseytravel.

RESOLVED - That:

- (a) the anticipated Local Authority Capital Fund from the Department for Transport as identified in paragraph 3.6 be noted; and
- (b) upon confirmation of funds the disbursement of these funds to the Constituent Authorities and Merseytravel be approved as indicated in paragraph 4.1, Table 1.

Minutes 140 to 159 be received as a correct record on the 10th day of June 2022.

Chairperson of the Combined Authority

(The meeting closed at 1.52 pm)