

LIVERPOOL CITY REGION COMBINED AUTHORITY

PUBLICATION: 28 JUNE 2019

DEADLINE FOR CALL-IN: 5 JULY 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, 28th June, 2019 the following Members were

P r e s e n t:

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

Councillor D Baines, Councillor A Leech (Substitute Member for Councillor P Hackett), Councillor I Maher, Councillor G Morgan, Councillor R Polhill, Rt Hon J Kennedy, Councillor L Robinson and Councillor C Mitchell (Substitute Member for Councillor R Bowden).

Deputy Portfolio Holders

Councillor K Groucutt, Inclusive Economy and Third Sector
Councillor L Robertson-Collins, Digital Connectivity and Inclusion
Councillor C Thomas, Policy, Reform and Resources
Councillor G Wood, Low Carbon and Renewable Energy

Mayoral Advisors

L Collins, Chair of FASJAB
K Farrell, Homelessness
B Spicer,
Councillor E Spurrell,

14. MINUTES SILENCE

Metro Mayor S Rotheram referred to the recent sad passing of former Sefton Councillor, Kevin Cluskey who had been Mayor of Sefton on three separate occasions.

The Combined Authority observed a minute's silence as a mark of respect to Kevin Cluskey.

15. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Mayor J Anderson OBE, Councillor P Hackett, Mr A Hamid MBE, Councillor R Bowden, Councillor I Moran, Councillor T Hardy, Councillor N Nicholas, Councillor S Powell, Councillor P Sinnott, Professor Dame J Beet, Reverend Canon Dr E Loudon and G Ben-Tovim OBE

16. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

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

17. MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE LCR COMBINED AUTHORITY HELD ON 24 MAY 2019

RESOLVED – That the minutes of the LCR Combined Authority held on 24 May 2019 be approved as a correct record.

18. LIVERPOOL CITY REGION METRO MAYOR ANNOUNCEMENTS AND UPDATES

Metro Mayor S Rotheram reported that since the last meeting of the LCR Combined Authority, he and the Metro Mayor of Greater Manchester Combined Authority, Andy Burnham, had called upon the Transport Secretary to terminate Northern's rail franchise and appoint an operator of last resort.

Metro Mayor S Rotheram set out his reasons for this which a year on from the disastrous May 2018 timetabling, Northern had consistently failed to demonstrate they are able to take the action required to restore public confidence or deliver their legally-binding franchise requirements. Which included a failure to deliver a significant and sustained improvement in performance with nearly a fifth of all services arriving late, 28,000 services cancelled and a huge increase in services being 'short-formed' from 2,825 in December 2018 to 4,172 in April 2019. Failure to operate Sunday services, he highlighted that the Sunday before his and Andy Burnham's announcement there were 165 unplanned cancellations on top of 90 planned cancellations.

Metro Mayor S Rotheram reported that these failures were having a huge impact upon the City Region and the wider economy of the north and urged the Secretary of State to act so public trust could be restored in a rail network which worked for its passengers.

Metro Mayor S Rotheram informed the LCR Combined Authority, that the Centre for Local Economic Strategies (or CLES) had held their national Community Wealth Building Summit in the City Region yesterday. He reported that it was a fantastic opportunity to meet with global leaders and discuss the ways that they are developing policies with people to ensure that the economy works for the many and not for the few.

Metro Mayor S Rotheram explained that this was an important opportunity to showcase the pioneering work which was happening on this agenda across the City Region and highlighted the examples of community businesses in North Liverpool and the work being done in Wirral to ensure more local public money is spent with local firms and employers.

He went on to explain that the LCR Combined Authorities Strategic Investment Fund had social value embedded into the bidding process and work was ongoing to develop a Fair Employment Charter, in collaboration with businesses and Trade Unions to build an inclusive and productive City Region economy.

Metro Mayor S Rotheram referred to the announcement at yesterday's CLES launch of the 'Community Wealth Building Centre of Excellence' at which he had set out how the City Region would be working in partnership with CLES and other experts in the field, particularly Barcelona, who had been extremely successful in this area of work.

Metro Mayor S Rotheram went on to inform the LCR Combined Authority of his recent visit to Wirral Met College, which had funded a £400,000 hi-tech energy centre which produced 80% of the college's electricity. He reported that the energy centre had minimised the college's need to use the national grid which had saved that around £5,000 per month, which had been reinvested into learning support.

He further explained that the students who were studying STEM at the college would also benefit from the energy centres presence as they would learn to work on many of its applications.

19. DEPUTY PORTFOLIO HOLDER APPOINTMENT

The Combined Authority agreed to move the order of the agenda items and consider the Deputy Portfolio Holder Appointment report first.

RESOLVED – That the appointment of Councillor Gillian Wood as the Deputy Portfolio Holder: Low Carbon and Renewable Energy and Councillor Shelley Powell as Deputy Portfolio Holder: Culture, Tourism and the Visitor Economy be approved.

20. CLIMATE EMERGENCY

The LCR Combined Authority considered a report of the Portfolio Holder: Low Carbon and Renewable Energy and the Director of Policy and Strategic Commissioning which provided the latest position on the work being undertaken by the Combined Authority to respond to the declaration of a climate emergency for the Liverpool City Region.

Metro Mayor S Rotheram reported that he had met with a number of representatives from Youth Climate Strike to listen to their request to declare a Climate Emergency, which had informed the decision of the LCR Combined Authority to declare a Climate Emergency. He reported that Kate Davies, one of the representatives from Youth Climate Strike, who he had previously met with, was here to speak to the LCR Combined Authority.

Kate Davies, Youth Climate Strike, referred to the Groups meeting with Metro Mayor S Rotheram and welcomed the LCR Combined Authority for declaring a Climate Emergency. She emphasised the importance of declaring a Climate Emergency and passionately highlighted some of the current natural disasters taking place across the globe, and as a consequence of the rising sea levels estimated that by 2050 there would be 140million climate refugees. She highlighted how, when there were spells of increased warmer weather this often lead to tragic deaths.

Kate informed Members that she was proud to fight on behalf of the residents of the City Region to seek to reverse the damage done to the environment and

improve their future prospects. She encouraged those present to share the same ambition and in conclusion thanked the LCR Combined Authority for listening to her.

Metro Mayor S Rotheram reassured Kate that the six Leaders of the constituent Local Authorities and himself had listened carefully and thanked Youth Climate Strike for bringing this significant issue to the attention of the LCR Combined Authority.

Councillor G Wood, Deputy Portfolio Holder: Low Carbon and Energy Renewables, thanked Kate for her speech and re-assured her that the Climate Emergency would be pushed up the political agenda.

In response, Councillor G Wood informed the LCR Combined Authority that the deterioration of the environment was a pressing threat and urgent action was required to address this and the declaration of a Climate Emergency by Metro Mayor S Rotheram was the first step in addressing this. Councillor Wood summaries sum of the measures the LCR Combined Authority was introducing to reduce carbon levels and advised that a Climate Action Plan was currently being prepared and would be available by December 2019. She also highlighted how significant progress had made in improving Air Quality, through the actions of the Air Quality Task Group.

Councillor Wood explained how the new trains on the Merseyrail network were designed to reduce their impact on the environment and how through the Transforming Cities Fund a number of initiatives would support low carbon technology, introduce improved cycling and walking provision to encourage people out of the car and the introduction of hydrogen buses.

Councillor Wood recognised that there was much more to be done and fundamental change was required if the LCR Combined Authority was to reach it's 2040 net zero carbon target, which was 10 years ahead of the Government's net zero carbon target by 2050. She explained how the ambition of the tidal project, providing energy off shore and replacing methane by 2035 were all part of the wider action plan for the City Region.

Councillor R Polhill, Portfolio Holder: Low Carbon and Energy Renewables, referred to the report and acknowledged that the LCR Combined Authority was taking action.

RESOLVED – That

- (i) the progress achieved to date in the development of a range of measures and initiatives outlined in this report that contribute to the City Region reducing its carbon and climate impacts be noted; and
- (ii) the next stage of developing a climate action plan by December 2019 be agreed.

21. DELIVERING THE LIVERPOOL CITY REGION DEMENTIA FRIENDLY PLEDGE - PROGRESS REPORT 2018/19

The LCR Combined Authority considered a report which explained the work undertaken by each of the constituents Local Authorities to action the Dementia Friendly Pledge which had been signed by the Leaders and the Metro Mayor at the LCR Health and Wellbeing Summit in February 2018.

Metro Mayor S Rotheram explained how the Dementia Friendly Pledge was of personal interest to him. He informed Members that he and his office had participated in dementia awareness training which brought to reality the challenges faced by people living with dementia and encouraged all to participate in the training.

Kirsty Pearce, Director of Policy and Strategic Commissioning, informed Members that the Dementia Friendly Pledge had been signed in 2018 and the report highlighted the work achieved to date. She referred to the commitments made by each of the constituent Local Authorities which including working with advocacy groups, the business community and promoting dementia awareness. Members were also informed that dementia awareness training had also been provided to frontline Merseytravel staff and through the Bus Alliance had devised a Driver training model for all bus drivers across the City Region. In conclusion, she highlighted that important steps had been achieved, however, there was further work to do and a further report would be brought back in a year's time.

RESOLVED – That

- (i) the contents of the report and appendices be noted; and
- (ii) officers provide a further report on the same basis at a similar point this time next year.

22. A COMBINED AUTHORITY TRANSPORT PLAN

The LCR Combined Authority considered a draft Transport Plan, following consideration by members of the Transport Committee at their meeting on 13 June 2019.

Councillor L Robinson, Portfolio Holder: Transport and Air Quality and Chairperson of the Transport Committee, reported that the Transport Plan had been refreshed and replaced the existing plan. He noted that the Transport Plan would be a short to medium term vision and would act as a pre-cursor to the Local Industrial Strategy. He placed on record his thanks to the constituent Local Authorities and the Transport Committee for their involvement with the Plan and welcomed the opportunity to develop a Mayoral Transport Plan in the coming months.

RESOLVED – That:-

- (i) the draft, non-statutory LCR Combined Authority Transport Plan set out in Appendix Two, which seeks to clearly articulate the LCR's vision, plans and short-term priorities for transport be endorsed;
- (ii) the summary LCR Combined Authority Transport Plan as set out within Appendix Three be endorsed;
- (iii) delegated authority be granted to the Director of Policy and Strategic Commissioning, in consultation with the Metro Mayor and Leader Portfolio Member for Transport and Air Quality, to oversee final non-material editorial and presentational changes to the document ahead of publication; and

- (iv) a long-term, statutory Local Transport Plan for the city region be developed in the context of the emerging Local Industrial Strategy, due for completion in the spring of 2020, to secure full integration between transport and connectivity priorities and the Combined Authority's wider inclusive growth remit.

23. PROPOSALS FOR DISTRIBUTING HIGHWAY POTHOLE ACTION FUND ALLOCATION IN THE 2019/20 FINANCIAL YEAR

The LCR Combined Authority considered a report of the Portfolio Holder: Transport and Air Quality and the Director of Policy and Strategic Commissioning which sought approval on the redistribution of an additional Pothole Action Fund allocation of £991,589 for 2019/20.

Councillor L Robinson, Portfolio Holder: Transport and Air Quality, informed Members that the Pothole funding from the Department of Transport would have a limited impact on resolving the number of potholes in the City Region. He referred to the detail in the report which indicated that further significant funding was required from Central Government to improve the condition of the roads across the City Region.

RESOLVED – That:-

- (i) the proposed re-distribution of the Pothole Action Fund of £991,589 for 2019/20 to each of the six Local Authorities as set out in Table 1, section 3 of the report now submitted be approved;
- (ii) the funding agreements be developed between the Combined Authority and the constituent Local Authorities to ensure that these funds are used for their intended purpose and in line with the Department for Transport's funding conditions as per Appendix One be noted; and
- (iii) notes with concern the highway maintenance backlog that affects the city regions roads, particularly the Key Route Network and the need to address the maintenance of this critical part of the city region's transport infrastructure.

24. ACCESS FOR ALL FUNDING FOR STATION IMPROVEMENTS IN THE LIVERPOOL CITY REGION

The LCR Combined Authority considered a report which informed Members of the successful bid submission to the Department of Transport (DfT) in obtaining part-funding for passenger accessibility improvements at five rail stations located with the City Region. The report highlighted that the five successful stations were:-

- Northern Line: St Michaels, Hunts Cross and Hillside
- Wirral Line: Birkenhead Park
- City Lane: Broad Green

Metro Mayor S Rotheram informed Members that approval was sought to match fund the DfT bid from the Transforming Cities Fund (TCF) of the Strategic Investment Fund.

Councillor C Thomas, Deputy Portfolio Holder: Policy, Reform and Resources welcomed the successful bid to deliver improved access to five train stations across the City Region. She highlighted how mobility improvements could change lives for the better and provide access to jobs, school and leisure opportunities. She also explained how the design also brought about improved access for the elderly and those using pushchairs and how this work brought real change to people's lives, improved social inclusion and supported the creation of sustainable communities for everyone.

RESOLVED – That:-

- (i) the award of grant funding from DfT of 50% of the cost of delivering access improvements at the relevant stations be accepted;
- (ii) approval be granted to match the DfT funding from the Transforming Cities Fund (TCF) element of the Strategic Investment Fund (SIF), subject to development of a business case and endorsement of the Investment Panel in accordance with the LCR Combined Authority's Assurance Framework; and
- (iii) the allocation of £1m from reserves to enable progress of design work which would be required to complete the business case be approved.

25. STRATEGIC INVESTMENT FUND UPDATE - JUNE 2019

The LCR Combined Authority considered a report of the Portfolio Holder: Inclusive Growth and Third Sector and the Director of Commercial Development and Investment which provided an update on the Strategic Investment Fund (SIF) activities. Mark Bousfield, Director of Commercial Development and Investment, advised Members that this was the first quarterly update to be received on SIF and advised that further updates would be received in the future.

Councillor K Groucutt, Deputy Portfolio Holder: Inclusive Growth and Third Sector, welcomed the SIF update and informed Members that SIF Round Two had the capability to deliver real value for the economy in the City Region and the North of the Country. She indicated that the investment would be significant and encouraged the Investment Team to progress the pipeline of projects.

RESOLVED – That the progress to date in relation to the Strategic Investment Fund be noted.

26. STRATEGIC INVESTMENT FUND: LOAN AND GRANT TO SANDON GLOBAL ENGRAVING TECHNOLOGY LTD

The LCR Combined Authority considered a report which sought approval to provide a grant and loan support to Sandon Global Engraving Technology Ltd ("Sandon or "the Company") to develop a purpose built facility incorporating a manufacturing centre, a Technical/Innovation Centre, Research and Development (R&D) facility and corporate headquarters to support their expansion. This centre would be built on the Manor Park Industrial Estate, Runcorn.

Councillor K Groucutt, Deputy Portfolio Holder: Inclusive Growth and Third Sector, welcomed an excellent application from the Strategic Investment Fund Round

2. She explained how Sandon Global Engraving Technology Ltd were working in partnership with Liverpool John Moores University in research and development and were also supports apprenticeships in conjunction with Riverside College. In conclusion, Councillor Groucutt, also welcomed the repayable funding approach adopted for this application.

Councillor R Polhill, welcomed the report, in particular acknowledging that this was significant investment in Halton with the potential to deliver 60 high value jobs.

RESOLVED – That:

- (i) the provision of grant support of up to £250,000 and a commercial loan of up to £1,750,000 to Sandon 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.

27. STRATEGIC INVESTMENT FUND: SHAKESPEARE NORTH PLAYHOUSE UPDATE

The LCR Combined Authority considered a report of the Portfolio Holder: Inclusive Growth and Third Sector and the Director of Commercial Development and Investment which sought approval for increased funding requirements for the Shakespeare North Playhouse, Knowsley.

Mark Bousfield, Director of Commercial Development and Investment, reported that the LCR Combined Authority had previously approved investment of £6.5m in to the Shakespeare North Playhouse in May 2018. However, since this approval the project costs have increased and £3.5m previously identified from educated related capital funding was now not available. To address this imbalance Knowsley Metropolitan Borough Council had agreed to increase its investment from £6m to £12.2m and had requested that the LCR Combined Authority funding contribution also increase from £4m to £10.5m.

Councillor G Morgan, Leader of Knowsley MBC, explained how the additional funding would support the development of the Playhouse, which once completed, would transform the landscape for Knowsley. Councillor Morgan also added how this was a landmark project for the borough and the investment demonstrated the commitment to revitalise the town centre and drive inclusive growth.

Metro Mayor S Rotheram reported that he had recently visited the site of the Playhouse and how it was welcoming to witness the transformation taking place.

RESOLVED – That:-

- (i) the LCR Combined Authority agreed to invest £6.5million in Shakespeare North Playhouse in May 2018 be noted;
- (ii) an increase in Strategic Investment Fund (“SIF”) support from £6.5m to £10.55m with specified conditions, as set out in Option Two be

approved and such increase to include £500,000 for business plan support; and

- (iii) delegated 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 Combined Authority Treasurer.

28. COMBINED AUTHORITY FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE REPORT : 2018/19 OUTTURN

The LCR Combined Authority considered the report of the Treasurer which provided the outturn position for the financial year 2018/19. The report also provided an update on the Authority's outturn Treasury Management performance against its agreed Treasury Management Strategy.

RESOLVED – That:-

- (i) the revenue and capital outturn position for 2018/19 be noted; and
- (ii) the Treasury Management Outturn Report for 2018/19 be approved.

29. LIVERPOOL CITY REGION ARMED FORCES COVENANT ANNUAL REVIEW 2018/19

The LCR Combined Authority considered the Annual Review of the Liverpool City Region Armed Forces Covenant.

Metro Mayor S Rotheram invited a number of armed forces personal and standard bears into the Authority Chamber. Metro Mayor S Rotheram thanked those staff from the Combined Authority and constituent Local Authorities who had supported the armed forces covenant and the activities within it which, aimed to ensure that those who were or had served and their families were treated fairly. He also reported that Saturday 29 June 2019 was Armed Forces Day and encouraged everyone to support this event in recognition of the work the Armed Forces undertake to keep us safe.

Councillor R Polhill, Portfolio Holder: Low Carbon and Renewable Energy, acknowledged the significant debt owed to veterans and their families in recognition of the extremely important job they carried out.

In conclusion, Metro Mayor S Rotheram, reiterated his respect for the armed forces and summarised that there were a significant number of people who served in the armed forces who were from the City Region and paid testament to the work they carried out.

RESOLVED – That:-

- (i) the contents of the report and the Annual Review be noted; and
- (ii) the Liverpool City Region Combined Authority reaffirmed its commitment to producing an annual review of progress in advancing the Armed Forces Covenant agenda.

30. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

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

31. PETITIONS AND STATEMENTS

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

32. MINUTES OF THE TRANSPORT COMMITTEE HELD ON 4 APRIL 2019

RESOLVED – That the minutes of the Transport Committee held on 4 April 2019 were received and confirmed by the Liverpool City Region Combined Authority.

33. VOTE OF THANKS

Metro Mayor S Rotheram reported that Mick Noone, Director of Integrated Transport, LCR Combined Authority would shortly be retiring. He reported that Mick had been involved in transport within the City Region for many years, including roles at Knowsley and Halton before joining the LCR Combined Authority in 2019.

Metro Mayor S Rotheram paid tribute to some of the pivotal work Mick had been involved in, which included involvement with Transport for the North, Chairing the successful Bus Alliance and leading on the development of the Key Route Network strategic team.

On behalf of the LCR Combined Authority, Metro Mayor S Rotheram, placed on record his thanks to Mick and wished him a happy retirement.

Councillor R Polhill, Leader of Halton Borough Council, thanked Mick for the many years of service he provided to Halton Borough Council and wished him well for the future.

Minutes 14 to 33 be received as a correct record on the 26th day of July 2019.

Chairperson of the Combined Authority

(The meeting closed at 1.50 pm)