



CITY DEAL

Preston, South Ribble & Lancashire

Preston, South Ribble and Lancashire City Deal - Stewardship Board

Minutes of the Meeting held on Tuesday 5th December 2023 at 2.00 pm at the Committee Room 'C' - The Duke of Lancaster Room, County Hall, Preston

Present

Deborah Holroyd-Jones(Chair)

Adrian Phillips
Angie Ridgwell

Mark Rawstron
Chris Sinnott

In Attendance

County Councillor Philippa Williamson, Leader, Lancashire County Council
Councillor Matthew Brown, Leader, Preston City Council
Councillor Paul Foster, Leader, South Ribble Borough Council
Councillor Matthew Tomlinson, Nominated Observer, South Ribble Borough Council
County Councillor Aidy Riggott, Nominated Observer, Lancashire County Council
Sarah Parry, City Deal Programme Manager, Lancashire County Council
Joanne Ainsworth, Principal Accountant, Lancashire County Council
Chris Hayward, Director of Development and Housing, Preston City Council
Phil Green, Executive Director – Growth, Environment and Planning, Lancashire County Council
Marcus Hudson, Head of Service – Planning and Transport, Lancashire County Council
Hannah Lysons, Democratic Services Officer, Lancashire County Council
Andy Milroy, Democratic Services Manager (Companies), Lancashire County Council
Heloise MacAndrew, Director of Law and Governance, Lancashire County Council
Leigh McLaughlin, Employment and Skills Co-Ordinator, Lancashire County Council
Simon Lawrence, Director of Growth and Regeneration, Lancashire County Council

1. Welcome and Apologies for Absence

Apologies had been received from the Nominated Observer from Preston City Council, Councillor David Borrow and Lucinda Taylor of Homes England.

2. Minutes of the City Deal Executive meeting held on 14th March 2023

Resolved: That the minutes of the City Deal Executive Board meeting held on 14 March 2023 were approved as an accurate record and signed by the Chair.

3. Minutes of the City Deal Stewardship Board meeting held on 14th March 2023

Resolved: That the minutes of the meeting of the City Deal Stewardship Board meeting held on 14 March 2023 were approved as an accurate record and signed by the Chair.

4. Matters Arising

None

5. Declarations of Interest

None

6. City Deal - Delivery and Performance Update Report

A collection of reports were presented which gave various delivery and performance updates. The following was highlighted for the Board's attention:

Sarah Parry, City Deal Programme Manager, Lancashire County Council, presented the Homes England monitoring report which stated that they had completed over 1700 units against the target of 4000, and 25% of currently delivered units were affordable or social rented units. Outline planning consent had been agreed on all sites, and £25 million of the £37.5 million grant which was agreed at the outset of the Deal had now been paid. The Infrastructure Projects Monitoring Report outlined that most schemes had been completed or were currently paused, except for the Preston Western Distributor and the Bamber Bridge safety works.

Deborah Holroyd-Jones, Homes England, reported to the Board that the remaining £12.5 million of the grant funding had provisional agreement to be paid in, subject to internal formal approvals and a continuation of the City Deal partnership.

Leigh McLaughlin, Employment and Skills Coordinator, Lancashire County Council, reported the social and economic value of various projects and highlighted that 58 new jobs, 45 separate work placements, and over 30 apprenticeships had been created. It was further reported that legacy data sources used to track employment and skills was no longer available and it was therefore requested that the Board accept the update provided as the final report in this series.

The Board thanked officers for their reports and welcomed the update from Homes England which had indicated the continuation of funding into the Combined City Deal.

Resolved: That the City Deal Executive and Stewardship Board

- (i) Noted the report.
- (ii) Agreed that this is the final report on Employment and Skills measures, due to the data sources being no longer available.

7. Any Other Business

It was requested under AOB that an update be provided to the City Deal Executive and Stewardship Board on the impact of the closure of the LEP on the Combined City Deal.

8. Date of Next Meeting

The Executive and Stewardship Board agreed that a further meeting of the Combined City Deal should be arranged, and it was indicated that January 2024 would be suitable.

Resolved: That the next meeting of the Combined City Deal is scheduled to be held on 19th March 2024 at 2pm in Committee Room 'C' - The Duke of Lancaster Room, County Hall, Preston.

9. Exclusion of the Press and Public

Resolved: The Executive and Stewardship Board considered that, under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public should be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following items of business on the grounds that there would be a likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in the appropriate paragraph of Part I of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972 as indicated against the heading to the item.

10. City Deal Review

Sarah Parry presented a report which outlined the current status of negotiations between parties to the City Deal in respect of agreeing a revised heads of terms. All parties present at the meeting outlined their position, including their concerns, requirements, and risks to be acknowledged as part of any revised terms. At this point a private and confidential discussion took place regarding each party's position. As part of this discussion, amendments were made to recommendation (v) with all parties agreeing the following resolution.

Resolved: The City Deal Executive and Stewardship Board:

- (i) Confirmed support in principle to continue to finalise proposals for an updated City Deal position and task officers to report back, to seek approval at a future City Deal Executive.
- (ii) Agreed that an extra City Deal Executive and Stewardship Board be scheduled in advance of the current proposed 19 March 2024 meeting, subject to finalisation of a revised proposal between Lancashire County Council, South Ribble Borough Council and Preston City Council.
- (iii) Requested that all partners formally confirm their agreement to the current negotiated position.
- (iv) Noted the ongoing dialogue between partners to finalise discussions; and
- (v) Noted and agreed continued on-going development work for the A582 scheme, utilising the remainder of the £1.51m budget provided in July 2020.

11. City Deal Finance Monitoring November 2023

Joanne Ainsworth, Principal Accountant, Lancashire County Council presented a report which outlined the financial forecast of the existing Heads of Terms.

Resolved: The City Deal Executive and Stewardship Board:

- (i) Noted the November 2023 Finance update, and
- (ii) Noted the work ongoing to resolve the deficit forecast in the model.

12. Preston Western Distributor Update - December 2023

Marcus Hudson, Head of Service – Planning and Transport, Lancashire County Council presented a report which provided an update on the construction of the Preston Western Distributor Road as it enters its final phase, as well as an overview of the financial position of the programme.

Thanks were extended to all officers for their hard work in the preparation of the report.

Resolved: The City Deal Executive noted the current programme and financial position of the Preston Western Distributor Scheme.