



CITY DEAL

Preston, South Ribble & Lancashire

Preston, South Ribble and Lancashire City Deal - Executive

Minutes of the Meeting held on Tuesday, 3rd December, 2019 at 2.30 pm at the Savoy Suite 1 - The Exchange - County Hall, Preston

Present

Jim Carter (Chairman)

Councillor Matthew Brown

Councillor Paul Foster

County Councillor Geoff Driver CBE

Mark Rawstron

In Attendance

Danielle Gillespie, Director, Homes England

Nicola Elsworth, Head of Public Sector Land, Homes England

Adrian Phillips, Chief Executive, Preston City Council

Gary Hall, Interim Chief Executive, South Ribble Borough Council

Stephen Young, Executive Director of Growth, Environment and Planning, Lancashire County Council

Phil Green, Director of Growth, Environment and Planning, Lancashire County Council

Jo Ainsworth, LEP and Special Projects Finance Manager, Lancashire County Council

Deborah Holroyd-Jones, Senior Development Manager, Homes England

Joanne Hudson, Project Manager, Lancashire County Council

Marcus Hudson, Planning Manager, Lancashire County Council

Andy Milroy, Senior Democratic Services Officer, Lancashire County Council

Jonathan Noad, Director of Planning and Property, South Ribble Borough Council

Sarah Parry, City Deal Programme Manager, Lancashire County Council

1. Welcome and Apologies for Absence

The Chairman, Jim Carter, welcomed all to the meeting. Apologies for absence were presented from Angie Ridgwell (Chief Executive and Director of Resources, Lancashire County Council) with Stephen Young formally nominated as her representative.

2. Minutes of the City Deal Executive meeting held on 14th October 2019

Resolved: That the minutes of the City Deal Executive meeting held on 14th October 2019 be approved as an accurate record and duly signed by the Chairman.

3. Minutes of the City Deal Stewardship Board meeting held on 14th October 2019

Resolved: That the minutes of the City Deal Stewardship Board meeting held on 14th October 2019 be approved as an accurate record and duly signed by the Chairman.

4. Matters Arising

None

5. Declarations of Interest

Jim Carter's long standard declaration in relation to Eric Wright and work on the Cuerden Development site was noted and that there were no specific recommendations in relation to the Cuerden Development site on the agenda.

6. Project Updates

A presentation was delivered on four specific projects as set out below:

Guild Wheel Watery Lane – Russell Rees, Preston City Council
Broughton Village – Shaun Capper, Lancashire County Council
Penwortham Bypass – Alan Eastham, Lancashire County Council
Preston Western Distributor – Phil Wilson, Lancashire County Council

Each presented highlighted the key achievements of each project and the key milestones and also lessons learned for those projects that had been completed or were nearing completion.

With regard to Penwortham Bypass it was noted that, at the time of the City Deal meeting, the Bypass had just opened the day before. Clarification was sought from City Deal Members that the initial traffic flow issues were being reviewed and adjustments would be made over the coming weeks as traffic patterns develop.

Resolved: The City Deal Executive and Stewardship Board thanked all officers for their presentations and noted the completion or progress made regarding each major scheme.

7. City Deal Six monthly performance monitoring report - Year 6 April - Sept 2019

Joanne Hudson, Project Manager, Lancashire County Council, presented a report (circulated) which provided the City Deal Executive and Stewardship Board with Performance Monitoring information for the period – Year 6 – April to September

2019.

It was highlighted that in relation to housing outputs 5474 completions have been made to date with 483 housing units have completed during the six month reporting period against a target of 772.

There are a large number of consents on windfall sites. Sites in North West Preston continue to develop well along with the mid-range sites in South Ribble.

With regard Homes England sites there is positive progress on 11 sites with six currently under construction. 90 homes have been completed during this period against the annual forecast of 252. Approval has also been granted on the Whittingham site.

With regard to Commercial floor space reporting just short of 15,000 sq m has been completed in the six month period with just short of 6,000 sq m consented. The annual target is just over 38,000 sq m and it is expected it will fall slightly short of that.

In addition it was noted that 399 jobs have been created in the first six months of 2019/20 that are associated with City Deal commercial floorspace completions and that 130 businesses in Preston and South Ribble have been supported specifically through the BOOST project, and 15 associated jobs created.

Martin Hill, Employment and Skills Co-ordinator, Lancashire Skills Hub also provided an update on the Employment and Skills section provided for the six month period. It was noted that there was an upward trend in Apprenticeship starts in construction with year 6 going down from 279 (year 5) to 237 (year 6) which is being reviewed.

One of the biggest successes in promoting Science Technology Engineering and Maths (STEM) across the City Deal area was the "Bridge the Gap' challenge which was commissioned by the Lancashire Enterprise Partnership. The programme succeeded in engaging with 3,560 pupils at 23 schools across the City Deal.

In addition a Construction Skills Hub was created from funding from Lancashire County Developments Limited for three years to sustain deliver and development of activity in Central Lancashire.

City Deal Members sought clarification on the older generation and the possibility to adapt to the trends of unemployment rising in the older generation, it was agreed that officers will review this action.

Resolved: The City Deal Executive and Stewardship Board noted the overall performance of the Programme in the last six months from April – September 2019 and endorsed the monitoring return to Government as set out in the report.

8. City Deal Social Value Update

Martin Hill presented a report (circulated) regarding City Deal Social Value.

It was highlighted that the report focused on capturing Social Value information and the measures being used including the direct employment of construction workers in the supply chain under the Unite Construction Charter.

The report also highlighted whether recruitment is being targeted in the most deprived areas and the procurement process being used and how far it supports the localism agenda ensuing that contractors deliver on their Social Value commitments.

City Deal Members noted that the Moss Side housing site is now consented and that it will be useful to investigate what Social Value information can be gathered for this site and brought back to the March meeting of the Combined City Deal.

City Deal Members also discussed and provided feedback on core design principles.

In addition it was noted that once the wider scoping exercise has been completed, the recommendations from this exercise and any implications for the City Deal will be considered and reported back to a future City Deal meeting.

Resolved: The City Deal Executive noted the report and considered the logistical challenges of mapping, monitoring and the report of Social Value across the programme portfolio.

9. Any Other Business

None

10. Date of Next Meeting

It was noted that the next Combined City Deal Executive and Stewardship Board meeting has been scheduled for Tuesday 3rd March 2020, at 2:30pm in a room to be confirmed at County Hall, Preston.

In addition a provisional programme of meetings for the remainder of 2020/21 was noted as follows:

- Tuesday, 14th July 2020, 2:30pm
- Tuesday, 6th October 2020, 2:30pm
- Tuesday, 1st December 2020. 2:30pm
- Wednesday, 17th March 2021, 2:30pm

All meetings will be held at County Hall, Preston.

11. Exclusion of the Press and Public

Resolved: That the press and public 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 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, as indicated against the heading of each item. It is considered that in all the circumstances the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.

12. City Deal Review - Proposal for a Revised City Deal

Phil Green, Director of Growth, Environment and Planning, Lancashire County Council tabled a private and confidential report (circulated) regarding a City Deal Review – Proposal for a Revised City Deal.

Following consideration a series of revised recommendations were approved as follows:

The City Deal Executive and Stewardship Board:

- (i) Noted the draft proposals for a revised City Deal outlined in the report, which comprised a new funding model, infrastructure delivery programme, housing and delivery target and governance for the City Deal.
- (ii) Authorised the Programme Board to prepare Heads of Terms in accordance with the proposals set out in the report, subject to clarification by the Chief Executives of the three local authorities.
- (iii) Requested that the three local authority partners seek their Council's agreement, by no later than 31st January 2020, to the additional housing numbers in order to ensure that the funding bid to Government's Small Sites Fund can progress in accordance with the requirements set out in this report; and
- (iv) Noted that LEP Board approval to the revised terms will be sought at the appropriate time.

13. Homes England - Small Sites Fund

Sarah Parry, City Deal Programme Manager, Lancashire County Council tabled a private and confidential report (circulated) regarding the Homes England – Small Sites Fund.

Following consideration a series of revised recommendations were approved as follows:

The City Deal Executive and Stewardship Board:

- (i) Agreed to support the preparation of the SSF business case, in order for it to be considered by HMT and MHCLG, on the basis of the additional housing numbers offered by the district councils and the commitment to continue to work towards an agreed revised Heads of Terms.
- (ii) Agreed to delegation authority to the Council Chief Executives to agree final content of the business case ; and
- (iii) Requested that the LEP Board receive an update on the SSF proposal at its meeting in February in order to provide its support for the business case.

14. City Deal Finance Report - Oct 2019

Jo Ainsworth, Principal Accountant, Lancashire County Council, tabled a private and confidential report (circulated) regarding the City Deal Finance Report for the period ending October 2019.

Following consideration a series of revised recommendations were approved as follows:

The City Deal Executive and Stewardship Board:

- (i) Noted the October 2019 Finance Update.
- (ii) Noted the work ongoing and required to be resolved to address the deficit forecast in the infrastructure delivery model.
- (iii) Supported the funding bids in place to attract funds to the model.
- (iv) Noted the key risks and potential going forward and accepted mitigation is needed to ensure the model remains balanced over the lifetime of the deal utilising the three strategies advised by the Steer Review report of expenditure mitigation, income generation and scheme prioritisation.
- (v) Agreed to write to Government seeking clarification on the impact of New Homes Bonus funding to the City Deal; and
- (vi) Agreed to liaise with other City Deal Schemes to see how they might be affected from the current consultation on New Homes Bonus by the Government.