

SCR - MAYORAL COMBINED AUTHORITY BOARD

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON:

MONDAY, 22 MARCH 2021 AT 10.00 AM

VIRTUAL MEETING



Present:

Mayor Dan Jarvis MBE (Chair)	SCR Mayoral Combined Authority
Mayor Ros Jones CBE	Doncaster MBC
Councillor Bob Johnson	Sheffield City Council
Councillor Sir Steve Houghton CBE	Barnsley MBC
James Muir	Chair of LEP Board
Councillor Charlotte Cupit (Reserve)	NE Derbyshire District Council

Officers in Attendance:

Dr Dave Smith	Chief Executive	MCA Executive Team
Dr Ruth Adams	Deputy Chief Executive	MCA Executive Team
Steve Davenport	Principal Solicitor & Monitoring Officer	MCA Executive Team / SYPTE
Gareth Sutton	Chief Finance Officer/S73	MCA Executive Team
Mark Lynam	Director of Transport, Housing and Infrastructure	MCA Executive Team
Helen Kemp	Director of Business & Skills	MCA Executive Team
Martin Swales	Interim Director of Transport, Housing, Infrastructure and Planning	MCA Executive Team
Sue Sykes	Assistant Director - Programme and Performance Unit	MCA Executive Team

In Attendance

Melanie McCoolle (Minute Taker)

Apologies:

Councillor Chris Read	Rotherham MBC
Councillor Garry Purdy	Derbyshire Dales DC
Councillor Tricia Gilby	Chesterfield BC

1 Welcome and Apologies

The Mayor welcomed everyone to the meeting and he introduced the Members present. Apologies for absence were noted as above.

Announcements

Mayor Jarvis MBE reported with great sadness the death of Councillor Nuala Fennelly, Doncaster Metropolitan Borough Council. Nuala had led from the front. Her passion, talent and drive to improve the life chances of young people in Doncaster through her work on the region's Education, Skills and Employment Board and to serve her community were, and will remain, humbling. Nuala would be very greatly missed.

Mayor Jones CBE added that Councillor Nuala Fennelly was the Cabinet Member for Children, Young People and Schools for Doncaster Metropolitan Borough Council. She had sadly passed away on 8 March 2021 after a short illness. She was a fantastic advocate for children and young people. She would be sadly missed, but not forgotten. She expressed the MCA's sincere condolences to Councillor Nuala Fennelly's husband, family and friends.

Mayor Jarvis MBE stated that tomorrow, 23 March 2021, would mark the one year anniversary since the Prime Minister had told everyone within the country to stay at home, save lives and to protect the NHS. It had been a year like no other. The latest Covid-19 position across South Yorkshire, like other parts of the country, showed that with the return of schools and more testing this had resulted in an increase to the case rates. In better news, to date, approximately 90% of people aged 60 and over in South Yorkshire have received their first vaccination dose, which was a great achievement. The impact of the vaccination programme was such that case rates by age group showed that the elderly now had the lowest case rates. In essence, we were being saved at the top end by the vaccines, and rates were rising at the bottom end with more testing of young people and workplaces.

Members noted that the pressure on the NHS had reduced significantly. Despite all of this, it was important to continue to be vigilant, to observe the social distancing rules and to do everything possible to stop the spread.

Mayor Jarvis MBE referred to the Budget that had been presented by the Chancellor of the Exchequer earlier in the month. Members' attention was drawn to the extension of support to businesses and people to enable them to get through the immense challenges that had arisen from the Covid-19 pandemic. But sadly, as Mayor Jarvis MBE had already made clear publicly, there were some egregious decisions, particularly in relation to how the Government intended to prioritise its £4bn Levelling Up Fund. If South Yorkshire was going to be transformed, then it would need to be done so under its own steam; extraordinary times called for extraordinary measures. The decisions that would be taken by the Board today would put into place an £860m stimulus package for the region that would support the young people through a South Yorkshire Young People's Pledge by investing in our places through £360m of funding projects in the next 12 months alone and the creation of the South Yorkshire Renewal Fund, which was worth up to £500m to help to deliver the major new programmes from 2022 onwards.

Mayor Jarvis MBE was pleased to update Members that by the end of March 2021, all of the £30m of additional funding that had been fought so hard to secure, would have reached the bank accounts of businesses across the

region. This was a testament to the local council economic development teams in Barnsley, Doncaster, Rotherham and Sheffield.

Mayor Jarvis MBE wished to take the opportunity to put on record his thanks to Mark Lynam as he prepared to leave for pastures new. As the Director of Transport, Housing and Infrastructure in the MCA Executive, Mark had made a huge impact on the region's economy and he would leave the MCA in a stronger position than ever before. Mayor Jarvis MBE and the Members would always appreciate Mark's intellect, work ethic, the impact that he had made and his capacity to roll with the punches. On behalf of the MCA, he wished Mark the very best in West Yorkshire.

3 Urgent Items

Members were informed of the means by which the meeting would be conducted, to be compliant with appropriate legislation and pursuant of SCR's own Constitution.

4 Items to be Considered in the Absence of Public and Press

None.

5 Voting Rights for Non-constituent Members

It was noted that Non-Constituent Members were welcome to participate in the discussion of every item on the agenda.

6 Declarations of Interest by individual Members in relation to any item of business on the agenda

Mayor Jarvis MBE declared an interest in the matters to be considered at agenda Item 13 entitled 'Capital Programme' which may relate to the Barnsley central constituency.

Mayor Jones CBE declared an interest in the matters to be considered at agenda Item 13 entitled 'Capital Programme' which may relate to Doncaster, by virtue of being the Mayor of Doncaster Metropolitan Borough Council.

Councillor Johnson declared an interest in the matters to be considered at agenda Item 13 entitled 'Capital Programme' which may relate to Sheffield, by virtue of being the Leader of Sheffield City Council.

Councillor Sir Houghton CBE declared an interest in the matters to be considered at agenda Item 13 entitled 'Capital Programme' or any other items on the agenda which may relate to Barnsley, by virtue of being the Leader of Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council.

7 Reports from and questions by members

None.

8 **Receipt of Petitions**

None.

9 **Public Questions**

None.

10 **Minutes of the previous meeting**

RESOLVED – That the minutes of the previous meeting held on 25 January 2021 were agreed as an accurate record of the meeting.

11 **South Yorkshire Investment Strategy**

A report was presented which summarised a proposed package of up to £860m of Mayoral Combined Authority (MCA) funding, collectively known as the South Yorkshire Renewal Fund, to create a stronger, greener and fairer region.

Mayor Jarvis MBE commented that this was a hugely significant moment for South Yorkshire. The proposals within the paper provided real firepower to unlock the growth within the economy and the support to the young people of South Yorkshire. He commended the work undertaken by Members and officers to reach this point.

RESOLVED – That Members:-

- i) Endorsed the use of up to £860m of MCA funding to support the recovery and renewal effort in South Yorkshire and to begin delivery immediately.
- ii) Agreed the £32.3m package of Mayoral Combined Authority investment in infrastructure, flooding, bus and active travel in 2021/22, as set out at paragraph 2.3 of the report.
- iii) Agreed a focused package of MCA support for South Yorkshire's young people requiring the:-
 - Introduction of a one year programme to extend the existing 11 – 18 travel concession to 21 year olds so that all South Yorkshire's young people between 11 and 21 can benefit, to run until June 2022 (as set out at 2.4 – 2.6 of the report).
 - Delegation to the MCA Head of Paid Service, in consultation with the S73 Officer, Monitoring Officer and the Executive Director of SYPTE, the authority to take the requisite steps to implement this concession enhancement proposal (paragraph 2.12 of the report).
 - Agreed the wider complementary support being made available by the MCA to create jobs, training and employment opportunities for those impacted by the pandemic, including measures to support young people (paragraph 2.7 of the report).
- iv) Agreed to the MCA S73 Officer entering into discussions with Government to secure borrowing arrangements for up to £500m of investment

(paragraph 2.8 of the report) and to report back once a proposal had been developed in order to seek the consent of the MCA to the functions covered by borrowing and the borrowing cap proposed.

- v) Approved the proposed investment principles at paragraph 2.11 of the report.
- vi) Approved the proposed next steps to implement the South Yorkshire Renewal Fund, as set out at paragraph 2.12 of the report, so that this could be operational from April 2022.

12 **Budget and Business Plan 2021/22 Approvals**

A report was submitted which proposed a budget and accompanying financial strategies for the financial year 2021/22. The proposed budget provided resource totalling c.£358m to enable the activity required to deliver upon the objectives set out in the MCA's Corporate Plan.

Major Jarvis MBE wished to place on record his thanks for the work of the MCA finance team for the development of the 2021/22 Budget that was set in front of Members for approval. At around £357m the resource available to the MCA in the new financial year was at a record level. The significance of the Budget should not be underestimated for us, as a region. It was one that captured a major programme of transport, housing and regeneration works, the first ever locally controlled Adult Education Budget investment, as well as projects funded out of the un-ringfenced devolution resources.

RESOLVED – That the Board:-

- i) Approved the adoption of the revenue and capital budget estimates for the year.
- ii) Approved the local contributions for the year.
- iii) Approved the Reserve Strategy.
- iv) Approved the Treasury Management Strategy.
- v) Delegated authority to the Section 73 Officer to facilitate the creation of a Project Feasibility Revenue Reserve through an intra-group transaction.

13 **Capital Programme**

Mayor Jarvis MBE commented that the items which had been discussed so far during the meeting had all related to the future. It was also critical to ensure that the current programme of investment was delivered.

A report was presented which sought:-

- i) Approval of one scheme with a total value of £9.45m Transforming Cities Fund Tranche 2 (TCF2) and Getting Building Fund (GBF).
- ii) Approval of four Transforming Cities Fund Tranche 2 (TCF2) Outline Business Cases (OBCs) to proceed to Full Business Cases (FBCs) and early release of development cost funding with a total value of £3.31m.
- iii) Approval of early release of business case development cost funding for one Transforming Cities Fund Tranche 2 (TCF2).

- iv) Approval of early release of business case development cost funding for one Active Travel Fund Phase 2 (ATF2) scheme.
- v) Approval of four change requests for existing Local Growth Fund (LGF) projects.
- vi) Approval of four change requests for existing Getting Building Fund (GBF) projects.
- vii) Approval of one change request for an existing Getting Building Fund and Transforming Cities Fund Tranche 2 (TCF2) project.
- viii) Approval to award Adult Education Budget (AEB) Grants to five Further Education Establishments, three Local Authorities and one six form college.
- ix) Approval to award Adult Education Budget (AEB) funding to successful applicants through the MCA procurement exercise being currently undertaken.
- x) Approval for delegated authority to be granted to the Head of Paid Service in consultation with the Section 73 Officer and the Monitoring Officer to enter into legal agreement for the schemes.

RESOLVED – That Members considered and approved:-

- i) Progression of “Quality Streets – Active Travel and Digital Infrastructure” project to full approval and award of £9m grant to Doncaster Metropolitan Borough Council subject to the conditions set out in the Assurance Panel Summary at Appendix A to the report.
- ii) Progression of “A635 Active Travel Link OBC” to FBC and delegated authority be given to the Head of Paid Service in consultation with the Section 73 and Monitoring Officer to agree an appropriate early release of development cost funding of up to £0.41m TCF2 to BMBC subject to the conditions set out in the Appraisal Panel Summary Table at Appendix B to the report.
- iii) Progression of “A61 Active Travel” OBC to FBC and delegated authority be given to the Head of Paid Service in consultation with the Section 73 and Monitoring Officer to agree an appropriate early release of development cost funding of up to £1.72m TCF2 business case development cost funding to BMBC subject to the conditions set out in the Appraisal Panel Summary Table at Appendix C to the report.
- iv) Progression of “Parkgate” OBC to FBC and early release of development cost funding of up to £1m to South Yorkshire Passenger Transport Executive (‘SYPTe’) subject to the conditions set out in the Assurance Panel Summary at Appendix D to the report.
- v) Progression of “Rail Station Improvements” OBC to FBC and release of development cost funding of up to £0.172m to SYPTe subject to the conditions set out in the Assurance Panel Summary at Appendix E to the report.
- vi) Approval to release scheme development cost funding for one scheme up to £48k, from TCF2 to Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council (‘BMBC’).
- vii) Release of scheme development cost funding for “Sheaf Valley” ATEF2 scheme, of up to £46k from ATF2 and Gainshare, to Sheffield City Council.
- viii) Project change request from “Doncaster Urban Centre” to agree a reprofile of job outcomes from 2020/21 to 2021/22.
- ix) Project change request from “DSA Car Park Expansion Loan Agreement” to agree an extension to works completion from January 2021 to May 2022

and reprofile of outputs and outcomes in accordance with the revised timescales.

- x) Project change request from “Peak Resort” to agree a reprofile of outputs from March 2023 to March 2024.
- xi) Project change request from “Digital Media Centre 2” to agree a reprofile of outputs from March 2021 to March 2022.
- xii) Project change request from “Rotherham Town Centre” to agree a reprofile of £0.53m grant from 2020/21 to 2021/22.
- xiii) Project change request from “Barnsley Digital Learning Sci Tech Building” to agree an extension to works completion from June 2021 to September 2021 and reprofile of £0.74m from 2020/21 to 2021/22 and reprofile of outputs and outcomes in accordance with the revised timescales.
- xiv) Project change request from “DN College Digital Infrastructure” to agree a reprofile of £0.31m from 2020/21 to 2021/22.
- xv) Project change request from “Goldthorpe Strategic Land Assembly” to agree revision of conditions to enable entry into contract.
- xvi) Project change request from “Heart of the City Breathing Spaces 2” to agree a reprofile of £0.41m GBF funding from 2021/22 into 2020/21 and £0.4m TCF funding from 2020/21 and £1.38m from 2021/22 into 2022/23.
- xvii) Progression of “AEB – Grant Provider Agreements” to full approval and award.
- xviii) Progression of “AEB Procurement Funding Agreements” to full approval and award.
- xix) Delegated Authority be given to the Head of Paid Service in consultation with the Section 73 and Monitoring Officer to agree an appropriate level of development costs and enter into legal agreements, following receipt of clarity on development cost requests for the schemes listed at recommendation 3 and 4 above and detailed in sections 2.2 and 2.3 of the report.
- xx) Delegated authority be given to the Head of Paid Service in consultation with the Section 73 and Monitoring Officer to enter into legal agreements for the schemes covered above.

14

Assurance Framework and Evaluation Framework

A report was presented which summarised the amendments that had been incorporated into the two frameworks which were presented for consideration by Members so that they could be submitted to Government for approval before 31 March 2021.

The MCA and LEP were required each year to update and publish its Assurance Framework to outline the robust, transparent and effective governance arrangements that were in place. There was also a requirement following devolution, for the Assurance Framework to be approved by the four Government departments. The MCA was also required to produce and publish a Monitoring and Evaluation Framework alongside the Assurance Framework to outline how projects and programmes funded with devolved and awarded monies would be robustly monitored and evaluated, which also required Government approval.

Major Jarvis MBE commented that as the levels of investment and resources

flowing through the MCA were increased, it was absolutely critical to continue to be transparent, open and accountable in the decision-making processes. He believed that the MCA was in a very strong position in relation to this.

RESOLVED – That Members:-

- i) Noted at section 2.3 of the report, the key amendments that had been made to the Assurance Framework to ensure compliance with the Government’s requirements on Gainshare and the Gateway Review Process.
- ii) Considered and endorsed the updated Assurance Framework set out in Appendix 1 to the report, pending any amendments required by the MCA, and gave consent for it to be submitted to Government by 31 March 2021 for approval.
- iii) Considered and endorsed the updated Monitoring and Evaluation Framework set out at Appendix 2 to the report, pending any amendments required by the MCA, and gave consent for it to be submitted to the Government by 31 March 2021 for approval.
- iv) Gave delegation to the Head of Paid Service in consultation with the Mayor, to agree any final changes required by the Government for them to approve and sign-off both Frameworks.

15 **Delegated Authority Report**

A report was presented which provided Members with an update on the decisions and delegations made by the MCA, which were in addition to those made under the Scheme of Delegation, and the decisions and delegations made by the Thematic Boards.

RESOLVED – That members noted the decisions and delegations made.

I, the undersigned, confirm that this is a true and accurate record of the meeting.

Signed

Name

Position

Date