

**SCR BUSINESS GROWTH BOARD**

**15th NOVEMBER 2015**

**AMP, WAVERLEY, ROTHERHAM**

<b>No.</b>	<b>Item</b>	<b>Action</b>
1	<p><b><u>Welcome and Apologies</u></b></p> <p>Present:</p> <p><u>Board Members</u> Paul Houghton, LEP / Grant Thornton - Chair Diana Terris, BMBC Cllr Julie Dore, SCC</p> <p>Apologies were received from Board Members Dan Swaine (BoDC, NEDDC), Cllr Lewis Rose (DDDC) and Gavin Baldwin (LEP / Doncaster Rovers FC)</p> <p><u>In Attendance</u> Andrew Gates, SCR Executive Team David Grimes, SCR Executive Team David Hewitt, SCR Executive Team - for item 5 Lee Viney, SCR Executive Team Ed Highfield, SCC Chris Scholey (Doncaster and Bassetlaw NHS Foundation Trust) William Beckett, Beckett Plastics Andrew Deniff, Barnsley &amp; Rotherham CoC Lloyd Snellgrove, SHU Di Buckley, SCC - for item 7 Garry Meakin, RISE - for item 7 Craig Tyler, Joint Authorities Governance Unit</p>	
2	<p><b><u>Minutes of the Previous Meeting</u></b></p> <p>The minutes of the previous meeting held on 6th October were agreed to be an accurate record of the meeting.</p> <p>Regarding updates, it was reported that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The draft Inward Investment Strategy is in development. It was noted that Chris Scholey has taken over the lead on this activity from Rachel Clark.</li> </ul>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The danger of 'Businesses not engaging' has been added to the SCR Risk Register as requested</li> </ul>	
3	<p><b><u>Declarations of Interest</u></b></p> <p>No declarations of interest in relation to the items on today's agenda were noted.</p>	
4	<p><b><u>Urgent Items / Announcements</u></b></p> <p>Andrew G informed the group that the SY Leaders had discussed what support they might be positioned to offer the c.1200 firms in the TATA supply chain who would be affected if local operations cease. Leaders have requested reports on the nature of the firms affected and what support might be provided from current funding streams e.g. RGF. This matter is also due to be discussed by the LEP.</p> <p>Andrew D noted that TATA have set up a task force to consider whether the 700 employees affected can be re-employed by other potential employers by matching skills sets. The task force is engaging the local chambers of commerce and next due to meet on 9th December.</p>	
5	<p><b><u>Business Plan: Budget Summary</u></b></p> <p>A paper was presented to provide an update on forecast expenditure against the current budget position for the funds under the purview of the Business Growth Executive Board – in alignment with the 2015/16 Business Plan.</p> <p>The paper also asked the Business Growth Board to consider a series of recommendations as to how future resources are allocated and identified a number of projects in the pipeline.</p> <p>The Board welcomed this information and agreed it would be a useful annex to the main Business Plan.</p> <p><b>RESOLVED, that the Board:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Notes the budget position for the Business Growth Board including the summary of decisions already taken either by the Combined Authority/LEP, the Business Growth Board or by other Groups</b></li> <li><b>Affirms the budget set out at Appendix A to the main report, including the £350,000 allocation to 'match' a European Funded Start-Up project promoted by the New Business Partnership subject to the production and agreement of an appropriate business case, any Start-up programme providing an equivalent offer to the whole of the Sheffield City Region and alignment</b></li> </ul>	

	<p><b>with the SCR Growth Hub more generally</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Notes the update regarding the likely expenditure in 2015/16.</b></li> <li>• <b>Agrees the proposed usage of future unallocated funds – in particular the “spoke development” budget allocation.</b></li> <li>• <b>Notes the requirement to develop a longer-term programme plan which utilises (so far as is required) the SCR’s Single Pot Allocation (for which greater clarity will be provided by the Spending Review on 25th November 2015).</b></li> </ul>	
6	<p><b><u>Innovation Update</u></b></p> <p>Lloyd delivered a presentation on the aims and objectives of the Innovation Centre of Excellence (ICE) group. It was noted that this precedes the presentation of formal proposals to be put before the Business Growth Board meeting,</p> <p>The presentation covered:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The relationship with the Science and Innovation Board and also Innovate UK</li> <li>• The ICE membership</li> <li>• The different ‘types’ of innovation under consideration, the role of the public sector in supporting innovation</li> <li>• The national and local funding and policy environment</li> <li>• Perceived linkages between innovation and productivity</li> <li>• Provisional findings which will be formulated into the final proposals.</li> <li>• Next steps</li> </ul> <p>Comments made by the group, which it was suggested should help inform the final proposals were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Frustrations that the universities don’t always want to engage with the private sector and the need for more engagements and connections</li> <li>• The requirement for the proposals to be more based around potential deliverables</li> <li>• Does the SCR have enough innovative businesses to ‘feed’ the universities?</li> <li>• What can this initiative do to succeed where Objective 1 and the RDAs arguably failed?</li> <li>• What actions need to be undertaken to stimulate SMEs to want to innovate? Proposals need to be understandable and relevant to the business community.</li> <li>• The biggest problem facing local manufacturers is under-productivity. How can innovation address that issue?</li> <li>• How many businesses are the universities currently</li> </ul>	

	<p>engaged with, in which sectors and for what objectives?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 'How much more engagement can be generated' might be a credible KPI for ICE</li> <li>• Clarity is required to explain why the work of ICE doesn't duplicate with Innovate UK.</li> <li>• Consideration should be given to what we could be good at, recognising 'we' can't do everything.</li> </ul> <p><b>Action: Lloyd to take the Board's comments on-board in working up the ICE proposals</b></p>	<p><b>LS</b></p>
<p><b>7</b></p>	<p><b><u>The Future of RISE</u></b></p> <p>Di Buckley presented a paper to provide the Board with some background information on RISE, its delivery record and economic impact and to present proposals for a 3 year extension to the project.</p> <p>It was noted that RISE [not an acronym] is a business growth project, focused on helping SME's grow by supporting them to access graduate talent as a way to upskill the workforce. The RISE project was launched in April 2013 and the current contracted delivery will end in Dec 2015.</p> <p>RISE has demonstrated that there is latent demand in SMEs for graduate positions, if the right support framework is in place.</p> <p>It was noted that RISE was originally developed by Sheffield City Council (SCC) and the City's Universities; however it operates at SCR level, with around 30% of the placements delivered outside of city boundary. To date RISE has delivered:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 170 paid employment opportunities in over 100 SCR based SMEs.</li> <li>• 70% conversion rates to permanent employment (based on the first 100).</li> <li>• Attracted over 3000 graduate applications</li> <li>• Over £1million private sector salary match</li> <li>• Estimated net GVA £5.6million per year</li> <li>• RoI of £5.71 GVA for every £1 invested</li> </ul> <p>It was noted that RISE partners, SCR Economic Development Directors and private sector have declared their support for the continuation of the RISE project after the current delivery contract ends in Dec 2015.</p> <p>The Board was informed of the opportunity to secure a 3 year extension to the RISE project, refocusing delivery to be more proactive across SCR and integrating the project into the Growth Hub and Innovation Centre of Excellence.</p>	

	<p>Considering</p> <p>In response to questions from Board Members, it was further noted that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There is an opportunity to extend the RISE project for a further 3 years, harnessing University funding of £480,000 and integrating the project into the Growth Hub and Innovation Centre of Expertise. This would require a SCR contribution of £50,000 per year for 3 years.</li> <li>• Business Growth Board members may be represented on the RISE Governance Board</li> <li>• The existence of other graduate programmes is acknowledged, however there are a number of important differences, such as RISE attracting graduates nationally to SCR companies, rather than being focussed on local or currently unemployed graduates.</li> </ul> <p>The Board members noted their support for funding the continuation of RISE in principle. It was agreed that given the requirement to agree the business case in advance of the next meeting, the business case would be presented to the Board Members outside the meeting and if approved, this decision will be reported retrospectively to the next meeting.</p> <p><b>Action: ALL to provide any further comments to Di</b></p> <p><b>Action: Andrew G to oversee and manage the process of seeking Board Members approval of the Business Case and formally report the matter to the next meeting</b></p> <p><b>RESOLVED, that the Board Members</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Note SCR Economic Development Directors support for the project and appetite to see the project continue at SCR level.</b></li> <li>• <b>Note and agree RISE’s potential fit with the Growth Hub and Innovation Centre of Expertise.</b></li> <li>• <b>Agree to fund the project, at £50,000 per year for 3 years, maximising University match funding of £480,000 (£80,000 per university, per year);</b></li> <li>• <b>Approve 3 year extension of the RISE project in principal subject to a full business case (to be agreed by the Board Members outside the meeting and the decision to be retrospectively reported to the January’s BGB.)</b></li> </ul>	<p>DB</p> <p>AG</p>
<p>8</p>	<p><b><u>Growth Hub Implementation Update</u></b></p> <p>A paper was received to provide a detailed summary of the</p>	

	<p>progress underway towards implementing the Growth Hub and to provide the Board with a clear work plan for consideration.</p> <p>It was noted that the objectives of the SCR Growth Hub are to provide a 'world-class' business support offer across the whole of the Sheffield City Region.</p> <p>The group questioned why the ambition isn't for all districts to move towards a single, centralised CRM at this stage. It was noted that this is a longer term ambition that can't be achieved in the timescales set for the Growth Hub CRM. It was agreed that the Growth Hub CRM will be designed to be capable of absorbing district CRMs when the opportunity arises in the future, e.g. contract renewal times.</p> <p>It was noted that there are a number of HR and procurement issues that appear to be hampering appointments to Growth Hub positions.</p> <p><b>Action: Diana and Ed to investigate what the HR issues (Diana) and procurement issues (Ed) might be and what can be done to address the situation.</b></p> <p>The ambition to create 500 'good jobs' per annum was questioned; with suggestions made that this figure is too low. It was noted that is figure only actually relates to the target for 2016/17 and is expected to rise in future years.</p> <p><b>Action: Andrew G to review the figure of '500' jobs</b></p> <p><b>RESOLVED, that the Board:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Notes the update</b></li> </ul>	<p>DT / EH</p> <p>AG</p>
<p>9</p>	<p><b><u>Spoke Updates</u></b></p> <p>Updates were presented in relation to the various Growth Hub Spokes</p> <p><b>9.1 <u>Inward Investment</u></b></p> <p>The Board was informed that the key next step for the spoke is the continued work with the SCR Invest Advisory Group and partners, including UKTI and local authorities to strengthen the SCR Invest function. November's Advisory Group meeting brought members of the Advisory Board up to speed on progress, reviewed the strategy and provided a steer on the development of an annual business plan and priority areas of focus for the SCR Invest team</p> <p>It was noted that thought is also being given to how local CEs who travel the world might be persuaded to take on an ambassadorial role for the SCR.</p>	

## 9.2 New Business

It was noted that the issue regarding the match funding for the ESIF New Business Launch Pad service has been resolved and agreement has been reached that the project can deliver across the SCR with a contribution of £350k from the LGF. A Full Business Case will be developed by Barnsley MBC as lead authority which will profile the expenditure over the 3 years lifespan of the project and brought to the next board on the 12 January 2016 for final agreement.

Following on from the Full Business Case a contract will be drawn up outlining the conditions of funding and the mechanisms for drawing down the funds based on expenditure. The vision will describe what the business start-up environment for the SCR should be like and some of the activities that will need to be delivered to get to that point. It was also noted that the vision will evolve over time and be used to direct investment in business start-up considering:

- Stimulating Entrepreneurial Activity
- Incubation and Acceleration
- Infrastructure and Connectivity
- Collaboration and Networks
- Entrepreneurial Skills

It was noted that a more comprehensive New Business update is in production and will be presented to the next BGB meeting.

## 9.3 Access to Finance

The spoke update was presented for information.

It was noted that a more detailed A2F update will be presented to the next meeting.

## 9.4 Export

William provided the group with an update regarding work underway to deliver the strategy.

In addition to the report which provided a commentary on each project it was reported that the main priority for SCR export activity concerns the planned developments for the launch of the Exporting is GREAT campaign. Part of this national launch includes an Exporting is GREAT roadshow which will be at the AMP on the 26-27th November.

It was noted that Business Growth Board Members have been consulted on the spoke's proposals and will continue to be informed about the planned activities. Working with the Head of the SCR Growth Hub and UKTI it has been agreed that the 27th November will be used as an opportunity for businesses to

	<p>interface with all spokes of the Growth Hub. This will therefore involve all aspects of the SCR team and partners.</p> <p>It was suggested that the relationship with UKTI might require reconsideration after the Comprehensive Spending review.</p> <p>Further information was provided to explain the concept of an Export Centre of Excellence.</p>	
<b>10</b>	<p><b><u>Actions and Resolutions</u></b></p> <p>Actions and resolutions were agreed and noted.</p>	
<b>11</b>	<p><b><u>Any Other Business</u></b></p> <p>No further matters noted.</p>	
<b>12</b>	<p><b><u>Date of Next Meeting</u></b></p> <p>Tuesday 12th January, 2.00pm at AMP, Waverley, Rotherham.</p>	