

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF
THE HUMBER LEADERSHIP BOARD
Held at the Ergo Centre, Hessle on
4th April 2024**

Present:

<u>East Riding of Yorkshire Council</u>	Cllr Anne Handley
<u>North Lincolnshire Council</u>	Cllr Rob Waltham
<u>North East Lincolnshire Council</u>	Cllr Philip Jackson

Officers	Alan Menzies – East Riding of Yorkshire Council Alex Codd – Hull City Council Sharon Wroot – North East Lincolnshire Council Paul Windley – North East Lincolnshire Council
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HLB.21 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence from this meeting were received from Councillor Ross, Councillor Shreeve, Rob Walsh, Matt Jukes and Alison Barker.

HLB.22 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest in any item on the agenda for this meeting.

HLB.23 MINUTES

The minutes of the Humber Leadership Board meeting held on 7th December 2023 were received as a correct record.

HLB.24 CARBON, CAPTURE AND STORAGE

The Board received an update on carbon capture and storage.

Councillor Waltham reported on a recent audience with a Minister on this issue, during which he was assured that it remained on the agenda and there would be opportunities for the Humber. Market-ready work was now being undertaken in preparation. It was anticipated that this would be

revisited in August/September 2024 and it would be a competitive bidding process.

Councillor Handley confirmed that it was a positive meeting.

RESOLVED – That the update be noted.

HLB.25

DEVOLUTION: HUMBER GOVERNANCE ARRANGEMENTS

The Board considered an update on the above.

The Board discussed the proposed governance arrangements for the Humber joint committee and, in particular, a proposal to invite the Leader of Lincolnshire County Council as a non-voting representative. It was noted that the JSU had already been enhanced through the inclusion of the economic development lead officer from Lincolnshire County Council. It was further noted that the Humber Chief Executives were due to meet with government officials in mid-April.

There was broad support for the proposal to include the Leader of Lincolnshire County Council on the joint committee, although it was noted that the Leader of Hull City Council was opposed.

A concern was raised about potential conflicts of interest for business representatives on the joint committee. Whilst the Board was keen to ensure the right people were involved, it was agreed that this should be fed back to the governance group for advice and a report brought back to the next meeting of this Board.

RESOLVED –

1. That the update be noted.
2. That a report be submitted to the next meeting of this Board providing advice on potential conflicts of interest for business representatives on the joint committee.

HLB.26

HUMBER FREEPORT

The Board received an update on the above.

It was noted that an annual conversation had recently taken place on the Freeport and its governance. This had gone reasonably well, noting that it operated very differently to other freeports. There had been good progress regarding bringing inward investment to the tax site but finalisation of seed capital decisions had been delayed. The Chief Executive of the Humber Freeport was lobbying DLUH on this delay.

The Board welcomed the general good progress and asked if they could assist with unlocking the delays with DLUH. Ms Wroot agreed to liaise with the Chief Executive of the Humber Freeport to see if a joint letter from the Humber Leaders would be helpful. The Chair felt that it would be helpful to be aware of the current situation before any lobbying by the Leaders.

RESOLVED –

1. That the update be noted.
2. That the Chief Executive of the Humber Freeport be requested to provide a briefing note on the current situation on the finalisation of seed capital decisions, to inform a potential joint letter from the Humber Leaders in support of unlocking any delays.

HLB.27

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The Board noted that the next meeting was due to take place on 20th June 2024. However, there were issues over meeting room availability and the Lincolnshire Show was also taking place on that date.

It was agreed that an alternative date would be looked at.

There being no further business, the Chair declared the meeting closed at 9.38 a.m.