



PLACE JOINT COMMITTEE

Minutes of the Meeting held on Thursday 21st January 2010

Present:

Cllr Michael Lee, Blackburn with Darwen Borough Council (Chair)
Cllr Peter Clarke, Hyndburn Borough Council
Cllr Albert Atkinson, Lancashire County Council
Cllr John David, Pendle Borough Council
Cllr Michael Ranson, Ribble Valley Borough Council
Cllr Tony Swain, Rossendale Borough Council

Supporting Officers:

Graham Burgess, Blackburn with Darwen Borough Council
Steve Rumbelow, Burnley Borough Council
David Welsby, Hyndburn Borough Council
Deborah Ashton, Lancashire County Council
Steven Barnes, Pendle Borough Council
Marshal Scott, Ribble Valley Borough Council
Helen Lockwood, Rossendale Borough Council
Max Steinberg, Regenerate
Steve Hoyle, Regenerate
Mike Damms, ELCC
Steven Spoerry (EL PCT)
Steven Cochrane, PLACE Strategy Unit
Brian Bailey, Blackburn with Darwen Borough Council
Marc Schmid, Blackburn with Darwen Borough Council
Phil Llewellyn, Blackburn with Darwen Borough Council

1	WELCOME, INTRODUCTIONS AND APOLOGIES	
	The Chair, Councillor Michael Lee, welcomed everyone to the meeting and asked them to introduce themselves.	
	Apologies were received from Councillor Peter Britcliffe (HBC), Cllr Geoff Driver (LCC), Cllr Gordon	

	Birtwistle (BBC), Andrew Lightfoot (BwDBC), and Janet Barton (LEP),	
2	<u>DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST</u>	
	There were no Declarations of Interest.	
3	<u>PUBLIC FORUM</u>	
	No questions had been received from members of the public.	
4	<u>MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING AND MATTERS ARISING</u>	
	The minutes of the last meeting held on 26 th November 2009 were confirmed as a correct record.	
5	<u>HIGHER EDUCATION UPDATE</u>	
	Alan Roff, Chair of HEEL (Higher Education in East Lancashire) and Deputy Vice Chancellor, UCLAN and Yana Williams, Vice Principal of Blackburn College, gave a presentation on behalf of the HEEL Group. The presentation outlined the history of Higher Education in East Lancashire and the issues arising. The HEEL Report in 2006 identified some key issues, namely the low level of HE participation and the low skills economy, whilst arguing the case for investment and an increase from 2250 FTEs in Pennine Lancashire to 4500 FTEs. The recent establishment in 2009 of the UCLAN Burnley Campus and the University Centre at Blackburn College had helped to create more FTE places and the key issue now was to ensure extra places were created rather than displacement i.e. places created for people who wouldn't have otherwise gone to university elsewhere.	
	Key issues identified included the need to identify funding for places after 2010/11 and the need to increase participation by carrying out outreach work with schools to advise them of opportunities. Additionally the skills gap needed to be addressed and the low skills jobs lost during the economic downturn would need to be replaced with high skilled jobs. Graduate retention was also key, as was employer engagement. The key challenge was moving from Higher Education <u>in</u> Pennine Lancashire to Higher Education <u>for</u> Pennine Lancashire.	

	The next 5 years would involve HEEL and PLACE working together and carrying out engagement activities and outreach and applying pressure politically to ensure more funded student places	
	It was recommended that:	
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The presentation be noted 2. That representatives from Blackburn with Darwen meet with County Council colleagues to discuss the promotion of Higher Education in schools 3. That the Secretary of the Joint Committee, Graham Burgess write to the Government Minister for Higher Education and invite them to meet PLACE representatives and to participate in a tour. 	<p>Noted Approved</p> <p>Approved</p>
6	<u>REPORT FROM PLACE HEAD OF STRATEGY</u>	
	A report was submitted which updated the Joint Committee on a number of items, the key points being:	
6.1	RS2010	
	<p>Part 1 on the new Regional Strategy has been issued for an 8 week consultation. The document, which would replace the Regional Economic Strategy and the Regional Spatial Strategy, proposed high level strategic priorities for the Region. It would be followed later in 2010 by an implementation framework, which would set out detailed policies and actions, both thematic and spatial. Taken together these would act as a guide for investment and a development plan. A Pennine Lancashire response would be co-ordinated and submitted.</p> <p>Agreed: Following discussion the Secretary was requested to write to the Minister for the North West – Phil Woolas and invite him to visit Pennine Lancashire.</p>	Approved
6.2	Housing	
	Work was underway on developing the ‘single conversation’ with the Homes and Communities Agency – the ‘conversation’ would be based on a Local Investment Plan produced by PL partners. In broad terms the plan would cover: strategy,	

	investment, capacity and delivery. The PL Housing Strategy and Delivery Plan provided the basis for the conversation, and the Housing and Places theme of the Joint Investment Plan identified complimentary investment priorities.	
	It was recommended that:	
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Joint Committee note the contents of this report 2. The Joint Committee endorse the proposal to bring a detailed report on the services being reviewed as part of RIEP funding to the next meeting 3. The Joint Committee endorse the proposal to bring to the next meeting the position statement of the employment and skills board and the report relating to the impact of welfare and social issues. 	<p>Noted</p> <p>Approved</p> <p>Approved</p>
7	<u>REGENERATE PENNINE LANCASHIRE LTD</u>	
	Max Steinberg, Chief Executive, Regenerate Pennine Lancashire Limited, verbally reported on the following:	Noted
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The new economic development company was formally established on November 23rd with the name 'Regenerate Pennine Lancashire' 	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The company were delighted to have secured Dennis Mendoros OBE as Chairman. With his wide experience as a successful businessman and ambassador for Pennine Lancashire, he would undoubtedly prove to be a real asset to the company. 	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The process of recruiting further private sector Board Members was now underway, and the Board Chairman and Governing Body would be involved. 	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Governing Body were next meeting on 1st February, where elected members would receive a full update about progress since the company was established and plans for next year. 	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff were working on the Business Plan for 2010-11, which would be presented to the Board and Governing Body in March. 	
	Agreed: Max Steinberg to bring a report back to the next meeting on the steps being taken to gain future	Approved

	HMR funding or similar in the new financial regime going forward, along with a synopsis of what would be included in the business plan for 2010/11.	
8	<u>PENNINE LANCASHIRE EMPLOYMENT SITES</u>	
	<p>Further to discussions at the last meeting, Steve Hoyle submitted a report updating members on progress in the development of key employment sites within Pennine Lancashire.</p> <p>Officers from the relevant economic development teams and Regenerate Pennine Lancashire, had identified a schedule of sites which had potential to be developed for future employment use. The sites consisted mainly of re-used or brownfield land, but did include a small number of greenfield sites which had planning permission for employment use.</p>	
	The sites were intended to accommodate a mix of new businesses, local companies wishing to expand, and inward investment businesses. The appendix attached to the report was a schedule of the main sites that would be bought forward over the next 5-10 years across Pennine Lancashire. The development of appropriate, well located and attractive sites would be an integral part of the strategy to meet the need for the 2500 jobs each year required in Pennine Lancashire	
	Agreed: Steve Hoyle, following discussions with other Councils, to bring figures to a future meeting, outlining whether both their employment and housing requirements would be met by current sites identified for such purposes.	Approved
	It was recommended that:	
	It is recommended that the members approved the report and endorse the action taken to secure the development of key employment sites in Pennine Lancashire.	Approved
9	<u>PLACE FUNDING UPDATE</u>	
	The Joint Committee received an update on the Programmes Managed by PLACE as follows:	
9.1	<u>PLACE Economic Development Programme</u>	

	Representatives from Pennine Lancashire met with Directors from the NWDA on the 8 th December to present the draft Business Plan for the programme. Presentations were made from all representatives to ensure a mutual understanding of the Pennine Lancashire and NWDA agendas. The discussions were constructive and future actions were proposed.	
	Further work was still required by the NWDA in relation to existing commitments from regional programmes, business support and the generic activity being funded throughout Pennine Lancashire.	
	The total financial year spend to date for 09/10 was £3,446,657 against a total profile of £5,408,005. Expenditure would be closely monitored during quarter 4 to ensure spend was maximised.	
9.2	Future Jobs Fund	
	An offer letter has been received from the DWP for 2009/10 for £2,723,500 to create 419 jobs by the end of March 2010. A submission has also been made for a further 12 months funding until March 2011, for which a decision was still awaited. The bid was to create a further 319 jobs, bringing the total to the original number of 725 jobs.	
	To date 102 jobs within the programme have been placed with Job Centre Plus. A re-profile of the Pennine Lancashire programme following the delayed start was due to be submitted to the DWP, moving some job starts into 2010/11.	
	Agreed: Brian Bailey to supply information to the media, outlining the jobs created across the various sectors.	Approved
	It was recommended that:	
	It is recommended that the Joint Committee note the contents of this report.	Noted
10	<u>LANCASHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL – FRAMEWORK OF PRIORITIES</u>	
	A report was submitted, which brought to members attention, a letter sent on behalf of PLACE to the Chief	

	Executive of LCC in response to the draft. 'Lancashire County Council Economic Strategy 2010-Framework of Priorities'	
	The Pennine Lancashire chief executives agreed that a joint response to the consultation document should be submitted to outline the important role Pennine Lancashire as a sub-region plays in Lancashire. Local authorities were also invited to submit their own individual responses.	
	The Pennine Lancashire Authorities welcomed the opportunity to comment on the draft strategy which would support the respective MAA's within Lancashire, however, the draft strategy had raised a number of concerns for the Pennine Lancashire authorities which were outlined in the attached response to the consultation.	
	The Pennine Lancashire response put forward a number of suggestions where the County Council's support would be invaluable.	
	The Pennine Lancashire authorities recognised the diversity of Lancashire and the difficult task the County Council had in accommodating this within a strategy. The authorities hoped that the comments and suggestion in the response would be considered when preparing the final strategy.	
	It was recommended that:	
	1. Members note the attached response which has been sent to Ged Fitzgerald and;	Noted
	2. Lancashire County Council be asked to present the final strategy to a future Joint Committee meeting	Approved
11	<u>RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN REGENERATE PENINE LANCASHIRE LIMITED AND THE PLACE JOINT COMMITTEE</u>	
	Graham Burgess submitted a report which defined the relationship between the Joint Committee and Regenerate Pennine Lancashire Ltd.	
	The report set out the roles of the Joint Committee and Regenerate, with the Joint Committee providing the Strategic Policy focus, with Regenerate being the	

	delivery vehicle.	
	<p>Regenerate would deliver, as agreed by the Joint Committee, housing market renewal, LEGI and other economic development, marketing and branding initiatives. Regenerate would allow major developments to occur much quicker through its increased capacity, project management skills and overall visibility as a development company.</p> <p>There would be flexibility and autonomy for Regenerate to make operational decisions around the allocation and deployment of resources within the priority list of projects agreed by the Joint Committee.</p> <p>They would have power to vire funding between programmes and projects to ensure maximum spend and impact.</p>	
	<p>Agreed: The Chair requested that Regenerate report back on a quarterly basis to the Joint Committee on progress in delivering the agreed programme.</p>	Approved
	It was recommended that:	
	Members agree the report and ask that it be considered at the next meeting of the company.	Approved
12	<u>GROWTH POINT RESEARCH</u>	
	Max Steinberg updated the Joint Committee on the work by Growth Point Steering Group to progress the Impact Assessment carried out by Ecotec.	
	The study sought to develop sub-regional understanding of the potential impacts, both positive and negative, of the proposed Central Lancashire and Blackpool Growth Point on the Pennine Lancashire housing market and economy in relation to the delivery of the Pennine Lancashire Multi Area Agreement and the Market Progression Model.	
	A workshop was held on 4 December attended by a range of economic development, housing and planning officers from across Central and Pennine Lancashire to 'sense-check' Ecotec's understanding of the local markets. The workshop was attended by the PLACE	

	Head of Strategy.	
	The workshop was very positive in enabling discussion regarding the relationship between growth and renewal in the two areas expressed in the Central Lancashire Growth Point Programme of Development and the Pennine Lancashire Market Progression Model. The impact of the current recession had clearly stalled development across both areas and there was general uncertainty about when local markets would beginning to recover. It was therefore difficult to predict when aspirations for growth in both areas were likely to be delivered.	
	It also became clear that more detailed information regarding the proposed location and phasing of key employment and housing sites was needed to enable Ecotec to better understand the likely impacts of growth in Central Lancashire upon Pennine Lancashire.	
	To access this detail Ecotec were following up the workshop with conversations with a range of key officers from the two areas.	
	It was recommended that:	
	That the Joint Committee note progress to date.	Noted
13	<u>CULTURE, LEISURE AND SPORT</u>	
	A report was submitted on the progress being made relating to Culture, Leisure and Sport within Pennine Lancashire.	
	Pennine Lancashire was designated as one of the five Priority Places under the Living Places scheme. This scheme has brought together Elevate and the five cultural agencies (Arts Council North West, CABE, English Heritage, Sport England and Museums, Libraries and Archives) to focus investment in regeneration areas. The programme has enabled: a focus on a number of priority projects, the mapping of cultural provision, and more focused investment by the agencies - £1.2 million in the last financial year.	
	The visitor economy in Pennine Lancashire was a real strength for the area and it is recognised that culture, leisure and sport can play a key role ink the Pennine	

	Lancashire Economy.	
	<p>The PLACE chief executives had nominated Helen Lockwood, chief executive of Rossendale Borough Council to take a lead role on behalf of the chief executives on culture, leisure and sport for Pennine Lancashire. To support this joined up approach. A group is being set up.</p> <p>Members of this group included Lancashire Sports Partnership, local authority representatives, private sector representatives and Regenerate Pennine Lancashire Limited.</p>	
	To further strengthen a joined up approach on culture, leisure and sport and also in recognition of its importance in the economy and lifestyle choices, it was recommended that an elected member from the PLACE Joint Committee will take a lead role in driving this agenda forward.	
	<p>Agreed: Following discussions on the various exciting events (such as the Food Festival, 10K Road Race, Cycle Race in Pendle and Big Picnic Activities) that would be occurring across Pennine Lancashire, Max Steinberg to bring back a proposal to a future meeting on linking the Food Festival with Olympic events occurring in 2012 in the region as well as delivering a presentation on the launch of the Pennine Lancashire Tourism website.</p>	Approved
	Max Steinberg also referred to the need to produce a calendar of events taking place in Pennine Lancashire to effectively tap in to the high levels of interest for events from people both in and outside of Pennine Lancashire.	
	It was recommended that:	
	1. Councillor Peter Britcliffe or Councillor Peter Clarke lead on Pennine Lancashire culture, leisure and sport.	Approved
	2. The Joint Committee endorse the establishment of a culture, leisure and sport group with partners.	Approved
	3. The terms of reference for the group be brought to a future Joint Committee for information; and	Approved

	4. The content of this report be agreed.	Agreed
14	<u>MATTERS OF URGENCY</u>	
	There were no matters of urgency.	
15	<u>DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING</u>	
	The next meeting of the Joint Committee will be held at Burnley Town Hall on 18 th March 2010.	
16	<u>PART 2 ITEMS</u>	
	There were no Part 2 items.	