

## **NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE**

### **TOWNS FUND BOARD**

**2 December 2022**

**MS Teams**

**PRESENT – Board Members:** Dr Faisal Baig, (Chair), Holly Mumby-Croft MP (in attendance until 11.40am); Becky McIntyre, Director Governance & Communities, North Lincolnshire Council; Roxeanne Asquith, British Steel; Alex Seale, North Lincolnshire NHS Place Director; Mark Fuller, Humberside Fire & Rescue Service; Samantha Cook, Hampton by Hilton; Sian Broughton, Voluntary Action North Lincolnshire; Francis Micallef, Rainham Steel; Katherine Cousins, Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy; Gurpa Singh, 2 Sisters Food Group.

Board Advisors: Peter Campey, Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy; Helen Manderson, Director Economy & Environment, North Lincolnshire Council; Lesley Potts, Assistant Director Place, North Lincolnshire Council.

Lisa Coates, North Lincolnshire Council, was also in attendance.

**APOLOGIES** – Apologies were received from Cllr Rob Waltham MBE; Diana Taylor, Marketing Humber; Jonathan Evison, Humberside Police and Crime Commissioner (HPCC); Simon Green, Deputy Chief Executive North Lincolnshire Council; Jo Corney, Department of Work and Pensions (DWP); Julian Free, University of Lincoln; Duncan Willey, PPH Commercial.

The meeting was held as a Teleconference via MS Teams.

**175 WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS** – The Chair welcomed all those present to the meeting and gave a warm welcome to two new members of the Board, Francis Micallef, Rainham Steel and Sian Broughton, Voluntary Action North Lincolnshire. Introductions were held.

The Chair reflected on an improving North Lincolnshire which is currently celebrating some really great things. In particular this week's headline in terms of North Lincolnshire's Children's Services being rated the best in the country. Congratulations to all involved in achieving this amazing outcome.

Peter Campey, BEIS, informed the Board that this would be his last meeting as the Government relationship contact to the Board through the Cities & Local Growth Unit, as North Lincolnshire is transitioning from a Humber and York region into a Greater Lincolnshire and East Midlands region. Peter will continue to work with Lesley Potts, North Lincolnshire Council, to complete some final projects, but then Katherine Cousins, BEIS, and the Greater Lincolnshire and East Midlands team will take this over. The Chair thanked Peter for his input and support to the Board and wished him well for the future.

- 176**     **NOTES AND ACTIONS FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS** – the Minutes of the meeting held on 1 July 2022 were approved as a true record. An update on the outstanding actions from the previous meeting was given:
- Minute 156 – TF004 Transforming the Scunthorpe Housing Market – the timeline has not yet been finalised and will be circulated to the Board as soon as possible.
- Minute 159 – FHSF001 Project Anchor – the 3D model has not yet been finalised and will be circulated to the Board as soon as it becomes available.
- Minute 171 – Probation Service to be engaged with regarding Multiply – Becky McIntyre, North Lincolnshire Council, is progressing this.
- Minute 171 – Arts information to be sent to Julian Free, University of Lincoln – Lesley Potts, North Lincolnshire Council, will pick this up with Sandra Simmons, North Lincolnshire Council.

The Chair highlighted an out-of-date website link for the Scunthorpe Town Board. With the amount of amazing work currently taking place this is unacceptable.

**Resolved:** Helen Manderson, North Lincolnshire Council, will speak to the North Lincolnshire Council Communications Team around transforming the comms.

- 177**     **DECLARATIONS OF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS AND PERSONAL OR PERSONAL AND PREJUDICIAL INTERESTS** – a new Board member was noted – Sian Broughton, Chief Executive, Voluntary Action North Lincolnshire. The Chair reminded the Board that any changes to membership must be highlighted to the Board in order to keep the register of Board members up-to-date.

The Chair updated on changes to his roles – he is no longer:

- Chair, NHS North Lincolnshire CCG
- Chair, NHS Humber Clinical and Professional Leaders Boards
- Acting Clinical Lead for Primary Care, NHS Humber and North Yorkshire Integrated Care Board

New role noted and recorded:

- Medical Director for Primary Care, NHS England – North East and Yorkshire

- 178**     **PROGRAMME SUMMARY REPORT** – Lesley Potts, North Lincolnshire Council, gave a verbal update.

FHSF002 - Urban Park Phase 2 – Lesley Potts, North Lincolnshire Council, shared some images of the completed park. The park is now a community space and has proved to be successful in terms of numbers using the space since it officially opened in September 2022. It is fantastic to see the space being used differently and safely. The recent Christmas Light Switch On event was a huge success. The team involved in the project should be proud of the work they have done in getting the project completed. Lesley Potts, North Lincolnshire Council, thanked the Board for their support.

Holly Mumby-Croft MP added how proud she is to have an area of the Town that can be used for events like the Christmas Light Switch On. The team who worked on the project have done a brilliant job. The Chair echoed this.

Lesley Potts, North Lincolnshire Council, said an application has been submitted to Government to rename the square in celebration of Her Majesty the Queen. Lesley Potts will keep the Board updated.

FHSF003 – Enabling a Future for Clean Growth – a business case was approved at the end of Summer 2022 to launch the North Lincolnshire Community Organisation. This is a project about delivery of green energy to our community, starting with schools through a cooperative using £1.4m to stimulate it. Comms has gone out in terms of the Board supporting this piece of work. This project is positive progress towards North Lincolnshire Council’s ambition to being carbon neutral in Scunthorpe. Lesley Potts, North Lincolnshire Council, added, in terms of young people, the biggest issue highlighted through a primary life survey was the environment and concerns around green energy.

FHSF004 – Transforming the Scunthorpe Housing Market – a business case has been submitted to Government and North Lincolnshire Council is working with Homes England to get the business case signed off. Whilst not at delivery stage at the moment, some market testing is being carried out in terms of potential sites. This project is currently in a good position and there are no concerns to raise.

TF001 – Advanced Manufacturing Park – North Lincolnshire Council is looking to develop advanced manufacturing in North Lincolnshire to bring high level skills and high paid jobs into the area. The vision and business case for this is well written in terms of the Board. The issue is around the site location, the original ambition being the Lincolnshire Lakes site which is now not coming to fruition. One option is to consider the British Steel site in terms of delivering advanced manufacturing on that site. It is proposed that the current business case for the Lincolnshire Lakes site be retracted and revisited, in conversation with British Steel and other interested parties, and resubmitted on the British Steel site in the context of legacy and long-term future planning. Holly Mumby-Croft MP feels the British Steel site is a good location and is in agreement to this being progressed as quickly as possible. Lesley Potts, North Lincolnshire Council, confirmed a change of site can be actioned within the agreed timescales with no loss of funding. The deadline is end March 2023 and she would look to resubmit the business case before end December 2022.

**Resolved:** The Board agreed to this proposal and raised no objections. Lesley Potts, North Lincolnshire Council, will progress a revised business case for the British Steel site and resubmit before end December 2022.

TF005 – Integrated Health, Innovation and Emergency Services Hub – Lesley Potts, North Lincolnshire Council, proposed to defer this project in terms of an update and to hold a special Towns Fund Board meeting after 15 December 2022. This is due to issues in acquiring the land for development and partners needing time to consider a new proposal which has been put forward. There is also a need to agree a project adjustment request as well as the business case.

**Resolved:** The Board agreed to the proposal to hold a special Towns Fund Board meeting after 15 December 2022 to discuss this project. Lesley Potts, North Lincolnshire Council, will progress.

FHSF001 – Project Anchor – site preparation is now underway on the old Scunthorpe Market site. North Lincolnshire has recently taken the decision to invest £1.5m in this project due to increasing costs to supplies and products and to retain the quality of the

project. The project is currently 2 weeks behind schedule due to work taking place in other areas.

The Chair thanked Lesley Potts for the update and extended an offer to the new Board members to speak to Lesley outside of this Board meeting if they wish to know more detail about any of the projects.

- 179 MULTIPLY UPDATE** – Lesley Potts, North Lincolnshire Council, gave a presentation on the project highlights and current position. A copy of the presentation was previously circulated to the Board with the agenda.

The overall objective of Multiply is to increase levels of functional numeracy in the adult population and spans over a 3-year period, starting in Autumn 2022 and ending in March 2025. North Lincolnshire Council has been awarded c.£1m over the 3 years as part of the UK Shared Prosperity Funding allocation and is eligible for adults (19+) who do not have a grade C / grade 4 (or functional skills Level 2 equivalent) in mathematics. Approximately just over 9% of the North Lincolnshire population have no skills. Lesley Potts, North Lincolnshire Council, gave an update on achievements and highlights to date. Further information on Multiply can be found by visiting both the North Lincolnshire Council and Government's websites. Sandra Simmons, North Lincolnshire Council, is the lead officer for this project and would be happy to speak to Board members if needed.

**Resolved:** The Board requested an update report be brought to the next Board meeting detailing numbers of people who are participating in this project. Lesley Potts, North Lincolnshire Council, will progress this with the lead officer Sandra Simmons, North Lincolnshire Council.

Board members to also look at opportunities to deliver this through their own organisations and make contact with Lesley Potts, North Lincolnshire Council, if they are able to help.

Holly Mumby-Croft MP left the meeting at this point (11.40am).

- 180 UK SHARED PROSPERITY FUND INCLUDING RURAL PROSPERITY FUND** – Lesley Potts, North Lincolnshire Council, gave a verbal update. An addendum to the original investment plan to Government was submitted last week around a further allocation of £780k of capital for the Rural Prosperity Fund. Approval from Government to commence the programme based on our investment plan is awaited. Peter Campey, BEIS, advised there is no official update on this as yet, but it is hoped we will hear something very soon.

- 181 AMP UPDATE** – an update was given earlier in the meeting. There is nothing further to add. The Chair thanked the Board for their support.

- 182 TOWNS FUND MONITORING SUBMISSION** – Lesley Potts, North Lincolnshire Council, gave an update. A briefing report and papers were previously circulated to the Board with the agenda in support of the proposal. As part of North Lincolnshire Council's Accountable Body status to manage the Scunthorpe Town Deal, the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (DLUHC) requires the council to report on project and programme progress every 6 months. The latest report covering April-September 2022 is now due with the signed report to be submitted to DLUHC by 12 December 2022. The Chair is asked to approve and sign-off the performance report on behalf of the Board as requested by DLUHC. North Lincolnshire Council's Section 151

Officer will also sign both performance return and baseline report. Lesley Potts and Helen Manderson, North Lincolnshire Council, will work through the final detail prior to submission by the deadline.

**Resolved:** The Chair is happy with the approach taken and will await final documents for signature prior to submission to DLUHC by 12 December 2022.

**183 ANY OTHER BUSINESS** – The Chair reiterated his earlier welcome to Sian Broughton, Voluntary Action North Lincolnshire, but noted that there is now only one community sector representative on the Board. It is normal practice to have two community sector representatives on the Board and it is proposed that a second representative be sought.

**Resolved:** The Board is asked to consider further representation from the community sector and put forward any suggestions to the Chair.

**184 DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING** – The timetable of meetings for 2023 to be confirmed. The Board is happy for the meetings to continue to be held every 2 months.