



### Notes of the meeting of Leadership Gloucestershire – 26 May 2016

#### 1 Welcome, introduction and apologies

Name	Organisation	Apologies
Cllr Mark Hawthorne (Chair) Pete Bungard	Gloucestershire County Council	
David Hagg	Stroud District Council	Cllr Steve Lydon
Cllr Paul James Jon McGinty	Gloucester City Council	
Cllr Patrick Molyneux Peter Hibberd	Forest of Dean District Council	
Cllr Steve Jordan Pat Pratley	Cheltenham Borough Council	
Cllr Christopher Hancock David Neudegg	Cotswold District Council	
Cllr Robert Vines Mike Dawson	Tewkesbury Borough Council	
Paul Trott	Gloucestershire Police and Crime Commissioner's Office	Martin Surl Richard Bradley
	Gloucestershire Constabulary	Suzette Davenport
Dr Andy Seymour Mary Hutton	NHS Gloucestershire Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG)	
Diane Savory David Owen	GFirst Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP)	
Katie Jenkins	Government representative – Department for Business, Innovation and Skills (BIS)	
Jane Burns Neil Corbett Simon Harper	Gloucestershire County Council	Jo Walker

## **2 LAST MEETING**

### **2.1 Action notes**

The notes of the meeting held on 28 April 2016 were agreed.

### **2.2 Congratulations**

Cllr Mark Hawthorne congratulated Martin Surl, Steve Jordan, Paul James and Steve Lydon on their re-election. He also congratulated Dr Andy Seymour on his appointment as Chair of the Gloucestershire Clinical Commissioning Group.

## **3 CONSULTANCY STUDY**

With the Cotswold/West Oxfordshire proposal no longer on the table, there was a strong appetite amongst partners to reinvigorate the devolution proposals for Gloucestershire. The Government was unlikely to consider any more devolution deals until the Autumn so there was an opportunity to review what was on the table.

It was recognised that the September 2014 bid was less ambitious than it might have been. It was generally felt that the 'self-sensoring' approach had held back earlier ambitions. Everyone agreed that incremental changes were no longer enough and there needed to be a desire for step-change across Public Sector Gloucestershire.

It was important that the process was not distracted by governance concerns and that a proposal was put forward that excited people and businesses in Gloucestershire.

KPMG, who had been closely involved in devolution bids elsewhere, had been approached on an informal basis to take a fresh look at the opportunities available in Gloucestershire. The focus would be on delivering outcomes for local residents and businesses. The study would examine the devolution bid submitted in September 2014, related documents and ongoing joint initiatives. The aim would be to identify the 'untapped' potential offered by coterminous public sector boundaries.

A Leadership Gloucestershire contingency was available to fund the study. The total cost was expected to be approximately £50,000.

Everyone supported undertaking the study with the Leadership Gloucestershire Officer Advisory Group (comprising chief executives and lead officers) developing the detailed scope. For the study to be effective, partner organisations needed to show ambition to stretch what they were already

doing. In particular, there were some hard questions around economic growth that needed to be answered.

**Action – Pete Bungard and Jane Burns**

### **3 STRATEGIC INFRASTRUCTURE FUND**

The report was a 'starter for 10' and significantly more work was required. Other projects could be added to the list including funding towards a feasibility study on the potential for a third river crossing. It was recognised that building a third bridge was a huge undertaking but it would demonstrate the scale of ambition in Gloucestershire. A bridge would need to provide new housing and business opportunities as part of a cross-county growth plan.

A mechanism was needed for looking at ambitious projects with the public and businesses being encouraged to engage in the process. Ideas could be feed into the pipeline to allow projects to be worked-up into a credible list for Government.

Following a question raised at the last meeting, it was noted that the flood works element of the Gloucestershire devolution bid broadly followed the content of the Greater Lincolnshire devolution deal. The Gloucestershire bid went further as it included funding for flood infrastructure to unlock growth.

### **4 ONE PUBLIC ESTATE**

The One Gloucestershire Estate Group had been successful in bringing public sector partners together to map assets across the county, share buildings and rationalise property holdings. Gloucestershire County Council alone had generated £64 million in capital receipts through rationalising property.

Examples of joint working included public sector hubs in Tewkesbury, Stroud and Bourton-on-the-Water, co-located teams at the County Council and Gloucester City and shared buildings with health. Negotiations were being held in Cheltenham and the Forest of Dean regarding the joint use of properties.

In recent weeks discussion had been held with the 20:20 Partnership (involving Cotswold, Cheltenham and Forest of Dean) to ensure that activities were coordinated across Gloucestershire.

Public sector partners were anxious that any bids for the Government's One Public Estate funding demonstrated that activities were being coordinated across the county.

It was proposed that a workshop be held in June to bring all the partners together with Leadership Gloucestershire receiving a progress report at its next meeting on 14 July. Worcestershire had taken an innovative approach by setting up a company, Place Partnership, to manage public properties. There might be some learning for Leadership Gloucestershire and it was suggested that their lead officer be invited to provide a briefing at the next meeting.

***Action – Jane Burns, David Neudegg and Neil Corbett***

**5 EXTRA ITEM - GROWTH DEAL 3**

Details were circulated of the timetable for the bidding process for the Government's Growth Deal 3. The deadline for the final submission to Government was 5 July 2016. Further information was available from David Owen and Pete Carr.

**6 FUTURE MEETINGS**

The following dates were agreed:

14 July  
8 September  
27 October  
15 December

(All 10am at Shire Hall)