

Minutes of City Growth Executive
Friday 17 July 2009

Present	Graham Bennett Ged Leahy Richard Williams Phil Smith Mark Williamson Cllr Hilary Jones Mohammed Sharief	Chair City Growth Executive - Catch the Vision Consultancy Vice Chair City Growth Executive, Chair of Jobs and Skills Strategic Lead City Growth, Derby City Council Vice Chair Business Growth, P N Smith Consulting Bombardier Transportation Derby City Council Chair Normanton Cluster, Jobs, Education and Training
Advisors	Alan Smith Jon Hinde Steve Battlemuch	Derby City Council East Midlands Development Agency Government Office for the East Midlands
In attendance	Verna Bayliss Hazel Lymbery Anna Hutchinson	Derby City Partnership Derby City Partnership Derby City Partnership

Item	Issue	Action
1	To begin	
a	Introductions, apologies and declarations of interest	
	Apologies were received from Kevin Edwards, Jonathan Guest, George Cowcher, Bob Kendall, John Forkin, Jane Harrison and Fiona Church. There were no declarations of interest.	
b	Minutes of 6 February and matters arising not covered in the agenda	
	The minutes from the last meeting were agreed as a true and accurate record. Page 3 – Scoping Derby’s Economic Assessment The Executive want to continue being engaged and involved with Derby’s Economic assessment and asked for a progress report on the early stages at the next meeting with a fuller discussion at the November Executive Page 4 – Credit crunch watch It was agreed that the bullet points discussed at the last meeting will be printed on the back of all future meeting agenda’s.	Alan DCP
2	Strategy and activity	
	Narrowing the wage gap	
	Graham explained that ‘narrowing the gap’ had been one of the themes that had emerged from the Audit Commission’s initial work on Derby’s Comprehensive Area Assessment or CAA. For City Growth one key issue had been the ‘city of contradictions’ as shown in the large difference between the average salaries of people working and living in Derby. An issue that was being considered by the Business Growth Group and the links to social enterprise and self employment. Hazel Lymbery explained that ‘Themed discussions’ had been held with a wide range of partners and the Audit Commission on 13 July as part of their assessment of whether services were fit for meeting the needs of Derby residents now and in the future. The inspectors had split ‘narrowing the gap’ theme into the recession and vulnerable groups. The lead inspector, Beverley Parker, had been impressed with the work being carried out to support businesses and City Growth’s work across sectors and	

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	<p>partnerships. However, they wanted to know the social impacts of the recession such as poverty levels, housing and the effects on health and well being. The Audit Commission wanted to assess how responsive Derby was to relocating resources to meet new or changing needs, geographically or at community or individual levels. Hazel said she was aiming to complete the audit and gap analysis by September and then produce an action plan that could be used as an evidence base for future plans.</p> <p>Graham raised the problem of having annual indicators in the LAA which made timely information, and therefore response, impossible. He also shared a point made by Mike Sandys, Deputy Director of Public Health, at the 'Themed discussions' who said that the current reduction of childhood obesity reflected the work done three years previously, plus luck! Impacts take time to be seen, particularly when DCP works in a long term strategic framework. Ged added that he felt they were looking for evidence of short term tactical solutions but the 'gap' persisted in most cities. Graham agreed, explaining that the deprived wards in Derby had focused support but sustained change would be difficult unless other underpinning causes were solved, such as being the gateway area for migrants, although this would result in dispersing problems across more wards.</p> <p>The Audit Commission were looking for how the partnership responded and mobilised itself to deal with issues like the recession, that can't be planned for. Both Phil and Ged felt that this missed the real pressures of revenue and funding and the importance of a long term strategic focus for investment where it would benefit an area over a long period of time and not just in the short term. Graham felt that perhaps DCP needs a strategic approach to being reactive to threats.</p> <p>Jon Hinde commented that Government was asking the Regional Development Agencies what they were doing to be ready for the upturn; he said that through the RDAs the Government was providing resources and taking action for the recession</p> <p>Mark Williamson felt the issue was how money was invested to create a stable long term platform, so that it was not just reactive. He explained that Bombardier invested in skills and youth with training and apprenticeships but also attracted young people into specialisms such as procurement.</p> <p>Steve Battlemuch felt that Government would continue to scrutinise this area. He highlighted Rosie Winterton's speech at the recent LGIU conference.</p> <p>Graham summarised the discussion suggesting that there were two challenges:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To have a strategic approach to being reactive • To keep a longer term strategic view <p>To bring in the discussions of the Business Growth Group, Phil Smith explained that the Group were looking to develop a longer term strategy and direction. The need for this had been emphasised by the high number of recent ERDF bids around social enterprise. He believed the first stage in narrowing the wage gap was 'priming'. In areas where there was high unemployment and therefore large wage gaps the key was access to support for people to be 'primed' to the point where they could start up a new business, social enterprise or go into employment.</p> <p>He shared with the Executive an opportunity for Derby to engage with the London Olympics to pilot, outside London, the 21st Century Legacy project. Inspirational stories from Olympians and Para-Olympians were used to start a three month tour of schools aiming to raise aspiration and self belief in hard to reach areas. Phil felt that this could counter some of the negative social impacts of the recession.</p> <p>Mohammed Sharief added that inspiration could also be harnessed from the community as there were great personal mentors from the local people and industry. Hazel felt that this project linked with the DCP Be Inspiring initiative and agreed to discuss this further with Phil outside the meeting.</p> <p>In talking about social enterprise, Phil felt that it was not just only the smaller scale</p>	<p>Phil / Hazel</p>

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	<p>individual initiatives, important though they were, but it was important to bring in a much broader view. This would mean larger organisations in Derby working in disadvantaged communities to support development of social enterprise. It would give employees of larger organisations personal development opportunities and he cited the social enterprise work done by food conglomerate Danone.</p> <p>Mark Williamson shared the example of Quebec in Canada where a number of high skilled, high calibre entrepreneurs had come from the informal principle of educating young people on how to deal with challenges in their working life and to think outside the box. This sort of work would require a structure to be established in Derby that lasted a long time and would spread throughout the community.</p>	
	Digital Britain report	
	<p>Graham gave a summary of the Digital Britain report with its possible impacts on Derby and the summary is attached with these minutes.</p> <p>Graham advised that the work on Lightspeed Derby had raised the profile of the city and was influencing Derby's position in the list of areas to be first to receive the infrastructure for super-fast broadband. He was part of a meeting with BT Openreach on 22 July to find out what needed to be done in Derby to allow them to invest and provide the super-fast broadband in Derby exchanges. Graham agreed to feed back the detail and outcome of the talks at the next meeting.</p>	Graham
	City Growth Strategy	
	The updated strategy was currently at the printers and a copy would be posted to all members of the Executive when they had arrived.	DCP
3	What's been happening?	
a	Economic Development Company update	
	Further consultation with partners on the setting up of an Economic Development Company had recently taken place. Richard explained that the benefits had been further explored and, although something would happen in April 2010, it was not clear if that would be full or in part. It was hoped this would be clear by September.	
b	Sub Group reports	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Jobs and skills group <p>Ged explained that from May to June the number of JSA claimants dropped, which was against the national trend of increase. There was also a high level of movement with 20% who were on the register had moved off it in the month. While remaining cautious, this was positive news for Derby.</p> <p>Jobs and Skills had condensed the themes from the recent research report into three main action areas - the skill sector support which was currently submitted as a Single Programme project, the establishment of a sub-group to look at developing a shared understanding of what we mean by 'skills' and 'qualifications' across the partnership and finally how do we tackle the projected demographics of a higher number of children and young people with the need for the city to have an extra 16,000 jobs to match the population growth.</p> <p>Eight ERDF projects had been submitted for the Jobs and Skills Group to examine at the next meeting although three were now ineligible.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Physical Futures <p>The Connecting Derby project was making good progress and the public were</p>	

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	<p>being asked to submit ideas for names for the new ring road via the Derby City Council website. The Local Development Framework team was in the process of taking their Core Strategy options and issues paper to the 17 Neighbourhood Boards. It was also agreed that this would be discussed at the September Executive meeting and Richard agreed to circulate the paper well in advance so members had enough time to read it through. The group would also look at relevant ERDF applications at their next meeting.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Business Growth <p>At the last meeting the action plan had been refined to sum up the key projects to take forward. This will help the sub-group assess their ERDF bids.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Performance and Commissioning Group <p>The Group had considered the latest 29 ERDF and nine single programme proposals alongside the City Growth strategic aims and ambitions. These were listed and appended to the Executive report. It had been decided that these would be referred to the relevant sub groups for further discussion. The Executive noted the list of project proposals and the decision to refer them back to sub groups for prioritisation.</p> <p>Richard explained that to help give clarity to the decision making, they had agreed an indicative split of the funding between the sub groups, which he asked if everyone was happy with. Ged replied that the support provided by the DCP Centre had been excellent; however he felt Jobs and Skills would not be able to cover all their allocation. Richard answered that the funding splits were not absolute and that the figures would be reviewed by Performance and Commissioning Group. It was emphasised that the projects would need to get underway as soon as possible to spend within the timescales to avoid de-committals. The funding split between the sub groups and the need for funding timelines to be kept to schedule were noted.</p> <p>The report also highlighted that consultants were being invited to tender for the work of preparing project specifications against gap themes to allow a more closely targeted call for projects. Emda would need to endorse the specification themes, which were redundancy support, enterprise coaching, specialist business support and reclamation of land.</p>	<p>Richard</p>
<p>4</p>	<p>Any other business</p>	
	<p>Agenda items for Friday 18 September were agreed as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● strategic discussion: “making the most of public sector investment in the credit crunch” – Russell Rigby had been invited to attend ● Core Strategy options and issues paper – Jonathan /Richard ● Overview of the FutureStory - Centre for Cities Report - John Forkin ● Derby’s Economic assessment progress report – Chris Pook <p>Richard explained as part of the England World Cup bid, Derby is competing with Nottingham and Leicester to be a host city. On 20 July the FA inspection team will visit Derby and support for Derby can be logged on the FA website. All agreed to support Derby and it was felt that Derby was well equipped for such an event.</p>	
<p>5</p>	<p>Date and time of next meeting</p>	
	<p>Friday 18 September 8.30–10.30am 7th Floor St Peter’s House, Gower Street</p>	