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Hull and East Yorkshire Combined Authority4<sup>th</sup> March 2026 2:30pmErgo, Bridgehead Business Park, HesslePRESENT:-

Mayor Luke Campbell, Councillors Handley, Dad, Ross, and Tucker, J. Evison (Police and Crime Commissioner for Humberside), D. Gent (Hull and East Yorkshire Skills Board Deputy Chair) (substituting for Jayne Adamson), and J. Speedy (Hull and East Yorkshire Business Board Chair).

IN ATTENDANCE:-

Councillor Meredith (Chair of the HEYCA Overview and Scrutiny Committee), A. Menzies (Interim Chief Executive), M. Heppell (Strategic Director of HR & OD), T. Maione (Interim Monitoring Officer), J. Neilson (Interim Director of Finance), S. Skelton (Investment Lead), and L. Hawkins (Democratic Services Officer).

APOLOGIES:-

Jayne Adamson (Chair of the HEY Skills Board).

<b>Minute No.</b>	<b>Description/Decision</b>	<b>Action By/Deadline</b>
<b>PROCEDURAL ITEMS</b>		
82.	<b>DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST</b>  No declarations of interest were received in relation to the items that follow below.	
83.	<b>MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 30<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2026</b>  The Democratic Services Officer submitted the minutes for approval.  <b>Agreed</b> – that the minutes of the meeting held on 30 <sup>th</sup> January 2026 be approved as a true and correct record.	

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84.	<p><b>MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 12<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY 2026</b></p> <p>The Democratic Services Officer submitted the minutes for approval.</p> <p><b>Agreed</b> – that the minutes of the meeting held on 12<sup>th</sup> February 2026 be approved as a true and correct record.</p>	
85.	<p><b>MAYORS ANNOUNCEMENTS</b></p> <p>The Mayor began by informing the meeting that it had been a very busy start to the year. He explained that the week before he had taken part in a Governmental visit to America. During the trip he had visited cities which had similar growth areas to Hull and East Yorkshire. A number of follow up calls had been arranged as a result of the visit.</p>	
86.	<p><b>PUBLIC QUESTIONS</b></p> <p>Councillor Wareing attended the meeting to ask the following question -</p> <p>There is an imminent threat to community-based employment support in HU6 due to the conclusion of the UK share prosperity funding which comes to an end on the 31st March 2026.</p> <p>With no success of funding or transition arrangements being announced HU6 provider Unity in Community have issued redundancy notices to the majority of their staff.</p> <p>Can we have a guarantee that there will be replacement funding available from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2026 for community based employment provision for providers such as Unity in the community, Goodwin and Probe?</p> <p>The Mayor provided the following response –</p> <p>That the UKSPF was to be replaced by the Local Growth Fund. The new fund was 38% less than the previous fund and it was to help with economic growth in the region. He understood the concerns</p>	

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	<p>of current providers. His team would be working with the providers and if they were doing what you say they are then we would be happy to support them however he could not guarantee anything until he went back and sat with his team.</p> <p>The new fund was to help with growth and his team would work with all the providers to see which ones were creating the most growth that aligned with the Growth Plan. The Growth Plan had been developed by an excellent team and was backed by data.</p> <p>Councillor Wareing informed the Board that the UKSPF funding ended on 1<sup>st</sup> April 2026 and if the providers did not receive confirmation of funding this month they would have to make redundancies.</p>	
87.	<p><b>REPORTS FROM THE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE AND ANY OTHER COMMITTEES OF THE COMBINED AUTHORITY</b></p> <p>Councillor Meredith (Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee) attended the meeting to provide the Board with an overview of the work that the Committee had undertaken.</p> <p>The Board was informed that the Overview and Scrutiny Committee had discussed the UKSPF at its last meeting; that a briefing for the Committee members had taken place which had been helpful and informative, and that the Committee would formulate its work programme in May 2026.</p> <p>The Board thanked Councillor Meredith for the work of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee.</p> <p><b>Agreed</b> – that the updates be noted.</p>	
88.	<p><b>HUMBER ECONOMIC STRATEGY 2025-2035</b></p> <p>The Interim Chief Executive submitted a report which presented the Humber Economic Strategy 2025 - 2035 (HES) for consideration and approval.</p> <p>The Investment Lead informed the Board that Humber Economic Strategy had been commissioned by the Humber Leader's Board; that the document set out the economic interests and</p>	

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	<p>strengths; that there was consistency between the Humber Economic Strategy and the Local Growth Plan, and that the Strategy could be used as a single voice for the region in communications with Government.</p> <p>Councillor Ross confirmed that the Strategy had been endorsed by Hull City Council; that it made sense to work on the issues, set out in the Strategy, as a region, and that the Humber economic geography was recognised.</p> <p>Councillor Handley confirmed that the Strategy had been endorsed by East Riding of Yorkshire Council and also the other elected Mayors in the region, and that it was recognised that the Strategy would evolve and change over time.</p> <p>A discussion took place and members commented that the Strategy was very estuary focussed and the region was much wider than that and that there needed to be more emphasis on Small to Medium Enterprises (SMEs).</p> <p><b>Agreed</b> – that the Board endorses the Humber Economic Strategy 2025-35 and note that, once endorsed by all Humber authorities, it will provide a consistent analysis and underpinning framework for the work of the Mayoral-led Joint Committee of the HEYCA and GLCCA.</p> <p><u>Reasons for Recommendations</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Through the devolution deals negotiated with Government, Hull City Council, East Riding of Yorkshire Council, North East Lincolnshire Council and North Lincolnshire Council understand the importance of developing the Humber’s economic potential and the need for public and private sector collaboration on both banks of the Humber in maximising area’s economic opportunities alongside the Greater Lincolnshire Combined Authority, the Humber Energy Board and Humber Freeport.</li> <li>• The Humber Economic Strategy 2025-2035 has been developed through extensive</li> </ul>	<p>Interim Chief Executive</p>
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	<p>engagement by HEYCA with key stakeholders including the Humber Freeport, Humber Energy Board, Local Authorities and the Greater Lincolnshire Mayoral Authority. The role of this strategy is to articulate the distinctive economic opportunities for the region and the national significance of these.</p>	
89.	<p><b>JOINT MAYORAL COMMITTEE – TERMS OF REFERENCE</b></p> <p>The Interim Monitoring Officer submitted a report which set out the proposed governance arrangements to support and facilitate the commitment by each Combined Authority and their respective constituent councils to work collaboratively across the Humber to enhance its economic potential.</p> <p>A discussion took place around the Terms of Reference for the Mayoral Humber Growth Board and that decisions could not be taken at meetings if both Mayors were not present; that it was suggested that the Mayor could appoint a substitute, and that there were concerns in relation to the decision making set out at section 7, particularly in 7.2, as it was felt that the Local Authority members should be able to participate in all votes.</p> <p>The Interim Monitoring Officer explained that the Terms of Reference had been drafted in a way to ensure that the meetings were Mayor led; that other Joint Mayoral Committees had been set up in the same way, and that the Mayoral Humber Growth Board could review its Terms of Reference at its first meeting.</p> <p>Members of the Board commented that the Police and Crime Commissioner for Humberside was not included within the membership of the Mayoral Humber Growth Board. It was acknowledged that the Police and Crime Commissioner was the only Pan-Humber elected representative and that they could provide useful contributions to the meetings. It was confirmed that the Home Office had no objections to the suggestion.</p>	

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	<p>A discussion took place around the Humber Business Forum and it was suggested that representatives from the Hull and East Yorkshire and Lincolnshire Business Boards would need to be Board members. The Interim Chief Executive</p> <p><b>Agreed –</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. That HEYCA’s constitution be amended to establish a joint committee to be known as the Mayoral Humber Growth Board and to include the Terms of Reference set out at Appendix A (subject to amendments of a minor and/or technical nature approved by the Chief Executive) in the constitution under Joint Arrangements &amp; Partnership Working;</li> <li>b. That HEYCA supports an open recruitment process to establish the Humber Business Forum, and</li> <li>c. That its Terms of Reference are submitted, for review, to the first meeting of the Mayoral Humber Growth Board.</li> </ol> <p><u>Reasons for Recommendations</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Mayoral Humber Growth Board delivers against the expectations set out within the devolution deals for Hull and East Yorkshire and Greater Lincolnshire. It is designed to facilitate the long-term economic growth of the Humber through a strong public-private partnership.</li> <li>• The Mayoral Humber Growth Board is underpinned by the Humber Business Forum, and representation from the Humber Energy Board and Humber Freeport, to ensure a strong private sector voice in all decisions made by the Mayoral Humber Growth Board.</li> </ul>	<p>Interim Chief Executive/ Interim Monitoring Officer</p>
<p>90</p>	<p><b>THE HULL AND EAST YORKSHIRE LOCAL GROWTH PLAN</b></p> <p>The Strategic Advisor – Investment submitted a report which presented the Hull and East Yorkshire Local Growth Plan (LGP) for approval.</p>	

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	<p>The Board was informed that the LGP fell under the remit of the Portfolio Holder for Investment; that part A of the document set out the Authority's strategic direction through four Big Plays; that it was an incoming statutory duty for Combined Authorities to have an LGP; that part B of the document set out the evidence base for the selection of the four Big Plays, and that part C set out the delivery and action plans.</p> <p>A discussion took place and members of the Board commented that there were not enough individuals with the relevant skills to fulfil the number of employment opportunities across the region and that options including the retraining of reoffenders needed to be considered.</p> <p>Members went on to discuss the allocation of the Local Growth Fund monies and clarification was sought in relation to what criteria would be used to allocate the funding, when the monies would be released and which organisation would be responsible for informing the providers of any allocations they would receive and how they would receive the payments.</p> <p>Members commented that the need to align funded programmes to the Local Growth Plan was acknowledged however the providers needed clarity as to whether they would continue to receive funding.</p> <p>The Strategic Advisor – Investment explained that the Combined Authority would set clear objectives which would be based on Government expectations; that a system conversation would need to take place in the first three months; that the Board would need to determine its oversight of the work being undertaken; that the Authority would undertake the work to review the impact of programmes funded by the Local Growth Fund; that it was anticipated that the two constituent local authorities would allocate the funding to the providers and would recharge the Combined Authority as it would not have sufficient time to set up a payment system; that the Combined Authority would inform the providers that they would receive funding for six months and that a review of the programmes would take place during that period,</p>	
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and that providers would need to demonstrate how their outcomes contributed to the aims of the LGP.

**Moved by Councillor Handley and seconded by Councillor Tucker**

- a. That the Board approves the Hull and East Yorkshire Growth Plan set out at **Appendix 1**;
- b. That the Board delegates authority to the Chief Executive in consultation with the Mayor to:
  - make any necessary minor amendments to the Plan to address errors, improve accessibility and ensure it remains current prior to formal launch
  - accommodate further minor amendments to the shared priorities established in the Plan where these are necessary to secure final ministerial sign-off (as set out in para. 6.3)
  - prepare a final and fully designed version of the Plan, together with any summary or investment focused presentations of the Plan that might be helpful to promote its objectives and priorities, and
  - to put in place appropriate resourcing arrangements to deliver the Plan and provide suitable future updates;
- c. That the Board notes the financial implications of the planned activity set out in the Plan, as summarised in Appendix 2;
- d. That the Board approves the allocation of Local Growth Fund monies as set out in Appendix 3, which includes funding for local organisations and programmes providing business and employment support to

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	<p>respond to the priorities of the LGP over, initially, a six-month transition period; and</p> <p>e. in making the above decisions, the Board considered the updated equalities impact assessment set out in Appendix 4.</p> <p><b>Motion carried.</b></p> <p><u>Reasons for Recommendations</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Local Growth Plan provides the core economic policy framework for the Combined Authority, ensuring that activity across all portfolios is strategically aligned.</li> <li>• Section 39 (via Schedule 20) of the English Devolution and Community Empowerment Bill, once enacted, is expected to confer on Mayoral Combined Authorities a duty to prepare and publish a Local Growth Plan for their area.</li> </ul>	
91	<p><b>HULL AND EAST YORKSHIRE TRANSPORT TRANSITIONAL ARRANGEMENTS</b></p> <p>The Interim Chief Executive submitted a report which set out the necessary delegations and assurance to ensure continuation of transport functions whilst Hull and East Yorkshire Combined Authority (HEYCA) developed and built its strategic transport capacity.</p> <p>The Interim Monitoring Officer explained that this was the final piece of the jigsaw in ensuring that the relevant delegations were in place for the transition of strategic transport functions to the Combined Authority.</p> <p>Councillor Tucker confirmed that as the Portfolio Holder for Transport he was content with the recommendations set out within the report.</p> <p><b>Moved by Councillor Tucker and seconded by Councillor Ross</b></p> <p>a. That the Board Approve delegation of the specific local transport functions which are now the functions of HEYCA only to East Riding of Yorkshire Council and Hull City</p>	Interim Chief Executive

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	<p>Council for the period 1<sup>st</sup> April 2026 to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2027 respectively to allow the Constituent Councils to continue delivering the functions on behalf of HEYCA;</p> <p>b. That the Board delegates authority to the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Section 73 Officer and the Monitoring Officer to enter into an agreement with the Constituent Councils to delegate such transport functions, including delivery of concessionary fares schemes and locally funded supported bus services during HEYCA's formative stage;</p> <p>c. That the Board approves the transfer of the consolidated local transport funding for the 2026/27 financial year to Hull City Council and East Riding of Yorkshire Council, to enable the continued delivery of agreed local transport programmes, based on the allocations used by the Department for Transport to calculate the overall settlement;</p> <p>d. Approve the adoption of the constituent councils' current Enhanced Partnership schemes for adoption to allow the allocation of the bus grant funding to be spent in line with Department for Transport Bus Grant guidelines;</p> <p>e. That the Board approves the adoption of the constituent councils' current concessionary travel schemes and locally funded socially necessary/supported bus programmes, and</p> <p>f. That the Board delegates authority to the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Monitoring Officer and Section.73 Officer, to finalise and submit the draft Local Transport Delivery Plan to the Department for Transport by the 20 March 2026 submission and to complete all enabling actions required for the proper implementation of the recommendations in this report.</p> <p><b>Motion carried.</b></p>	
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	<p><u>Reasons for Recommendations</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• HEYCA became the Local Transport Authority for Hull and East Yorkshire when HEYCA was established by Parliamentary Order in February 2025. The legislation that created HEYCA made provision for a transition period where certain transport powers were exercised concurrently between HEYCA and the constituent councils until 31<sup>st</sup> March 2026. As a result, all Department for Transport (DfT) local transport funding is now routed through HEYCA.</li><li>• The DfT consolidated local transport funding is additional to and not a substitute for existing local authority baseline transport budgets funded by locally raised revenues or public transport funding allocations from other Government Departments, including the Local Government Finance Settlement (LGFS). DfT consolidated funding cannot be used to meet statutory English National Concessionary Scheme duties/requirements, and the DfT expect baseline bus budgets from other sources to be maintained.</li><li>• Strategic leadership and accountability for transport sits with HEYCA, while delivery of highways and transport schemes continues to sit with the constituent councils as highway and traffic authorities. From 2026/27, DfT funding will be outcomes based and failure to demonstrate delivery, value for money or assurance could result in DfT intervention. The requirement to submit a draft Local Transport Delivery Plan by 20 March 2026 is the first step towards this new way of working with the DfT.</li><li>• At its November 2025 meeting, the Board agreed that Department for Transport Bus Grant Funding for 2026/27 be delegated to the constituent councils, subject to mutual agreement of spending plans and Mayoral</li></ul>	
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	<p>approval, and that the delegation be governed through a formal agreement pursuant to and in accordance with section 101 of the Local Government Act 1972.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• As the Local Transport Body, from the 1 April 2026, HEYCA has a statutory duty to prepare and maintain a Local Transport Plan. During the transition period, this duty has been met through the alignment of the constituent councils adopted Local Transport Plans, pending development of a single HEYCA Local Transport Plan. The Plan is currently in development, supported by the existing overarching strategic transport framework.</li> </ul>	
92	<p><b>SKILLS AND BUSINESS ADVISORY BOARDS - REORGANISATION INTO BUSINESS, SKILLS AND EMPLOYABILITY ADVISORY BOARD</b></p> <p>The Interim Monitoring Officer submitted a report which proposed the merger of the current Skills Advisory Board and Business Advisory Board arrangements into one Business, Skills and Employability Advisory Board.</p> <p>The Board was informed that the Authority's Constitution would need to be amended in order to merge the Skills and Business Boards to create a whole system Board. A Terms of Reference for the new Board would need to be drafted and would be submitted to the next meeting of the Executive Board.</p> <p>A discussion took place and members queried whether there was a rationale for merging of the current advisory reports. It was acknowledged that there had always been an intention to revisit the membership and role of the Boards.</p> <p>The Mayor explained that he felt that better outcomes were achieved when work was undertaken in a collaborative manner; that the proposal had been discussed with the Chairs of the advisory boards and they were supportive, and it</p>	

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	<p>would be beneficial to have various sector representatives around one table.</p> <p>Members of the Board commented that all parties needed to work together to deliver the Growth Plan; that a number of working groups would need to sit beneath the Business, Skills and Employability Advisory Board; that there were a number of governance issues relating to the Adult Skills Fund and the HEY Business, Growth and Skills Hub that would need to be addressed; that the report did not specify the size of the Board and it was acknowledged that the membership would need to include representatives from the private, public and voluntary/community sectors, and that the Local Skills Improvement Plan would need to be tied in.</p> <p><b>Agreed</b> - that an in-principle decision be made to merge the current Business Advisory Board and the current Skills Advisory Board into a single Business, Skills and Employability Advisory Board and THAT HEYCA's constitution be amended to establish a single Business, Skills and Employability Advisory Board in the place of the separate Skills Advisory Board and Business Advisory Board with arrangements as follows -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The 'placeholder' in HEYCA's Constitution for Terms of Reference for the Skills Advisory Board be deleted.</li> <li>• The 'placeholder' in HEYCA's Constitution for Terms of Reference for the Business Board Advisory be deleted.</li> <li>• The new Business, Skills and Employability Advisory Board have Joint Chairs being the current chairs of the Skills Advisory Board and the Business Advisory Board.</li> <li>• That all current members of both the Skills Advisory Board and Business Advisory Board be invited to express an interest in being members of the new Business, Skills and Employability Advisory Board.</li> </ul>	<p>Interim Monitoring Officer</p>
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• That the Monitoring Officer be instructed to develop, in conjunction with the joint chairs of the new Business, Skills and Employability Advisory Board, a draft Terms of Reference, initial draft work plan and initial draft calendar of proposed meetings for presentation at the next meeting of Executive Board.</li> <li>• That current Skills Advisory Board and Business Advisory Board meetings and proceedings continue, unchanged, until such time as Executive Board resolve to accept Terms of Reference and the first meeting of the new Business, Skills and Employability Advisory Board is declared open.</li> </ul> <p><u>Reasons for Recommendations</u> The Business, Skills and Employability Advisory Board will deliver against HEYCA’s ambitions and expectations across linked themes of Business, Skills and Employability through addressing them as a single system and modifying governance arrangements to reflect that system level strategic thinking. It is intended that this broadening, through a single body, will better enable and facilitate delivery of Mayoral priorities. The recommendations are made to facilitate growth through strong cross-cutting partnership working across the public and private sectors.</p>	
<p>93</p>	<p><b>EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC</b></p> <p><b>Agreed</b> - that, in accordance with the provision of Section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public (including the press) be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business, minute 94 on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 1 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act, relating to an individual and that the public interest test in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest test in disclosing the information.</p>	

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94	<p><b>APPOINTMENT OF SENIOR OFFICERS</b></p> <p>The Strategic Director of HR &amp; OD submitted a report which requested the Board to note appointments to senior posts made by recent Employment Panels, in line with the Hull and East Yorkshire Combined Authority (HEYCA) Constitution.</p> <p><b>Agreed</b> – that the Board notes the decisions of Employment Panel to appoint:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Joseph Quinn to the post of Executive Director of Operations at a salary of £125,000 per annum</li><li>• Chris Blucke to the post of Programme Director – Transport at a salary of £95,000 per annum.</li></ul> <p><u>Reasons for Recommendations</u></p> <p>Both preferred candidates were interviewed by the Employment Panel, considered to be the best candidates and therefore appointed by Employment Panel all in accordance with HEYCA’s Constitution.</p>	
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