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Hull and East Yorkshire Combined Authority28<sup>th</sup> May 2025Ergo, Bridgehead Business Park, HesslePRESENT:-

Mayor Luke Campbell, Councillors Handley, Dad, Ross and Tucker, L. Hammond (Deputy Humberside Police and Crime Commissioner), D. Gent (HEY Skills Board Deputy Chair) and J. Speedy (HEY Business Board Chair).

IN ATTENDANCE:-

M. Rogers (Interim Head of Paid Service), L. Dixon (Interim Monitoring Officer, HEY Combined Authority), J. Neilson (Interim Section 73 Officer HEY Combined Authority) and L. Hawkins (Democratic Services Officer).

C. Watts (Director of Economic Development and Communications, ERYC) minutes and , H. Baross (Net Zero Coordinator, HEY Business, Growth and Skills Hub) minute

APOLOGIES:-

Jonathan Evison (Police and Crime Commissioner) and J. Adamson (HEY Skills Board Chair).

Minute No.	Description/Decision	Action By/Deadline
<b>PROCEDURAL ITEMS</b>		
12.	<b>DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST</b>  L. Hammond declared an interest in the items that follow below insofar as he was a Councillor in the East Riding of Yorkshire.	
13.	<b>MINUTES OF THE HULL AND EAST YORKSHIRE COMBINED AUTHORITY EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING HELD ON 5<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2025</b>  <b>Agreed</b> – that the minutes of the Hull and East Yorkshire Combined Authority Executive Board held on 5 <sup>th</sup> March 2025 be approved as a true and correct record.	

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14.	<p><b>ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE MAYOR AND MAYORAL UPDATE</b></p> <p>The Mayor began by confirming he had been in office for just over two weeks and during that time he had attended the UK REiF (Real Estate Investment and Infrastructure Forum) where he had spoken to various sectors about investment in Hull and East Yorkshire. Whilst at UK REiF he had also met with the Leaders of East Riding of Yorkshire and Hull City Council to discuss what could be done to make improvements across the region. He recognised that both Leaders were strong leaders who were committed to the region and they all wanted to work together to better Hull and East Yorkshire.</p> <p>The Mayor explained that he had attended a meeting of the Council of Nations and Regions where the Prime Minister and Deputy Prime Minister had also been in attendance. During the meeting discussion had taken place around skills, education and particularly gaps in post 16 education, housing and brownfield development sites. The meeting had been positive and good relationships had been built.</p> <p>He confirmed that he would continue to provide updates on the work that he was undertaking.</p> <p><b>Agreed</b> – that the Mayor be known as the Mayor for Hull and East Yorkshire.</p>	
15.	<p><b>ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE HEAD OF PAID SERVICE</b></p> <p>The Interim Chief Executive and Head of Paid Service explained that he did not have any announcements for the meeting.</p>	
16.	<p><b>PUBLIC QUESTIONS</b></p> <p>The Interim Monitoring Officer reported that a question had been received from a member of the public.</p> <p>Mr Edward Washer attended the meeting to ask the following question:</p>	

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	<p>“I want to ask Mr Campbell what criteria he will use to decide whether or not to support business proposals affecting Hull and East Yorkshire for the development of green energy in whatever form the proposals might take.”</p> <p>The Mayor gave the following response:</p> <p>“I have consistently supported green energy in the region and the creation of jobs. I was brought in by the people of this region and I represent them. If I can help create local jobs and local businesses that is what I am here to do. Also, in relation to green energy there are other opportunities to look into including hydrogen energy. The Mayor of Nottingham is looking into fusion energy which is another interesting option and there is also nuclear energy so across the board there are good options and we will explore all of them.</p> <p>Mr Washer then asked the following supplementary question:</p> <p>“As you stood as a Reform candidate do you see any conflict, with what you have just said, with the Reform party’s attitude towards Green Energy”.</p> <p>The Mayor gave the following response:</p> <p>“I have been very vocal on stating that I represent this region and I will put it first before any party politics. I have said it on many occasions and on different platforms. I have always expressed that I will put this region first over anything.”</p>	
17.	<p><b>ANY ITEMS OF BUSINESS REFERRED FROM THE LAST ORDINARY MEETING OF THE COMBINED AUTHORITY</b></p> <p>The Interim Monitoring Officer confirmed that there were no items of business referred from the last ordinary meeting.</p>	

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18.	<p><b>REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS FROM ANY OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE OF THE COMBINED AUTHORITY</b></p> <p>The Interim Monitoring Officer confirmed that there were no reports or recommendations from any Overview and Scrutiny Committee of the Combined Authority.</p>	
19.	<p><b>REPORTS FROM ANY OTHER COMMITTEE OF THE COMBINED AUTHORITY</b></p> <p>The Interim Monitoring Officer confirmed that there were no reports from any other committee of the Combined Authority.</p>	
20.	<p><b>STATUTORY CONSENTS REQUIRED IN RELATION TO THE EXERCISE OF ANY FUNCTION EXERCISED CONCURRENTLY WITH THE CONSTITUENT COUNCILS</b></p> <p>The Interim Monitoring Officer confirmed that no statutory consents were required in relation to the items of business that followed below.</p>	
21.	<p><b>ADULT SKILLS FUND READINESS</b></p> <p>The Interim Chief Executive submitted a report which set out the Hull and East Yorkshire Combined Authority's proposed response to the Department for Education's (DfE) Adult Skills Fund (ASF) devolution Readiness Criteria.</p> <p>The Interim Monitoring Officer explained that the decision of the Board would be dealt with as an urgent item as the Combined Authority's proposed response to the to the DfE Adult Skills Fund (ASF) devolution Readiness Criteria had to be submitted to the DfE by 30<sup>th</sup> May 2025.</p> <p>The Director of Economic Development and Communications explained that the ASF would be one of the key budgets that the Combined Authority would have responsibility for; that the Adult Skills Fund Strategic Skills Plan was the key document; that the ASF was expected to be in the region on £16m and would be indexed linked so would</p>	

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	<p>increase annually; that the Hull and East Yorkshire Skills Board had considered the report at its meeting on 21<sup>st</sup> May 2025 and was in support of the recommendations, and that the delivery of Adult Skills provision in the 2026/27 academic year would mirror the provision delivered in 2025/26 to allow an opportunity for the level of change required to take place.</p> <p>Members of the Board discussed the following matters –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. That Skills agenda and being able to do things differently was a key part of the Devolution deal for Hull and East Yorkshire;</li> <li>ii. That the report explained how disadvantaged and ethnic minority groups would be supported and whether how this would be undertaken could be expanded. The Director of Economic Development and Communications explained that English and Another Language (ESOL) would continue to be delivered and a bus would be used to reach coastal and rural areas. It was confirmed that all of the provision that was delivered was subject to inspection by Ofsted. That some of the eligibility for access to free training could be adjusted at a local level;</li> <li>iii. That the plan was similar to previous plans and there were few references to small businesses. The Director of Economic Development and Communications explained that the criteria for the ASF was very specific however there were other funds that could be used to support small businesses and entrepreneurs. It was recognised that ideally a strategy for the region would have been developed however it had not been possible due to the DfE submission timescales;</li> </ul>	
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	<p>iv. That there were four prisons in the region however prisoners had not featured within the plan. The Director of Economic Development and Communications explained that the plan could be changed once it had been submitted to the DfE, and</p> <p>v. That the skills required by farming and fishing industries were very specific and they had not been included within the first priority set out at section 5 of the report.</p> <p>The Board was informed that a period of stability was required whilst in depth analysis was undertaken to identify the Adult Skills provision required in Hull and East Yorkshire. As part of that analysis conversations would take place with learners and providers. The HEY Skills Board would also be a key stakeholder.</p> <p>The Interim Chief Executive explained that the submission of the ASF Strategic Skills Plan was the start of the process; that the Combined Authority was about to execute a key element of the Devolution deal for Hull and East Yorkshire, and that the majority of Combined Authorities had taken a similar approach in relation to the handover of adult skills.</p> <p>Members queried when the strategy was expected to be submitted to the Board for approval. The Board was informed that the draft strategy had been agreed at the board meeting held on 5<sup>th</sup> March 2025 and it was expected to be submitted to the Board again in the Autumn.</p> <p><b>Agreed as an urgent item –</b></p> <p>a. That the Board approves the approach set out in the ASF Strategic Skills Plan, and specifically the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Strategic priorities against which the ASF will be commissioned (paragraph 5.1) with the amendment to the third priority to include work within prisons</li> </ul>	
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	<p>within the Hull and East Yorkshire Combined Authority region</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The commissioning principles that will be used by the HEYCA (paragraph 5.2)</li> <li>• HEYCA's commitment to the use of distance learning (paragraph 5.3)</li> <li>• HEYCA's commitment to the use of sub-contracting (paragraph 5.4)</li> </ul> <p>b. To delegate authority to the Interim Chief Executive, in consultation with the Interim S73 Officer and Interim Monitoring Officer at their discretion to make any necessary minor or non-material amendments in order to finalise the ASF Strategic Skills Plan, Readiness Criteria and supplementary evidence and to submit these to the DfE by May 30<sup>th</sup> 2025.</p> <p><u>Reasons for Recommendations</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The ASF Strategic Skills Plan is a key document in the context of the devolved ASF. It sets out the approach HEYCA will take in the management and administration of the fund to which providers must adhere. It will be a public document and will be used by providers of ASF as a reference point as it will set out the Combined Authority's strategic direction and guidance on commissioning. As such, the document and the principles contained within it require the approval of the HEYCA Board as it will establish the Combined Authority's policy position.</li> <li>• Delegated authority to continue working on the Readiness Submission is required to allow the finalisation of the submission and supporting documentation, including sections of the ASF Strategic Skills Plan. The DfE's deadline for receipt of the submission is 30th May 2025 but work developing the processes and systems required to administer the ASF is ongoing and will continue beyond this date</li> </ul>	
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22.	<p><b>HULL AND EAST YORKSHIRE INVESTMENT PLAN PRINCIPLES</b></p> <p>The Interim Chief Executive submitted a report which set out the proposed Investment Principles that would underpin the Investment Plan to inform decision making to ensure investment funding was deployed in the most effective and beneficial way across Hull and East Yorkshire.</p> <p>Members were informed that the Board had approved the Authority's Assurance Framework at a previous meeting which provided Central Government with assurances that the Authority had appropriate governance arrangements in place to allow it to agree strategic investment decisions; that being strategic was crucial and that the Authority would need to agree investment which would make the most difference to the region; that report set out principles for investment one of which referred to scale and agreeing investment which had the most beneficial impact and that collaboration was also key and the HEY Business and Skills Boards would be used to engage with a wide network of stakeholders.</p> <p>A discussion took place and members raised the following matters –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. That the principles referred to transport improvements that however transport safety had not been to mentioned within the report;</li> <li>ii. That the principles had not set out the differences between coastal, rural and urban investment;</li> <li>iii. That collaboration across the Humber region would need to be considered, and</li> <li>iv. That decisions relating to investment would be evidence led.</li> </ul> <p>The Board was informed that the principles could be amended to include specific references to transport safety and collaboration across the Humber region.</p>	
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	<p><b>Agreed –</b></p> <p>a. To accept the Investment Principles as set out in section 5.2, with amendments to the principles to include a specific references to transport safety and collaboration across the Humber region, namely:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Strategic – be intricately linked and contribute towards at least one of the four strategic themes for actions set out in the Hull and East Yorkshire Economic Framework and demonstrate a clear evidence-based need.</li> <li>• Value for money – maximise cumulative impact by bringing together projects into an integrated programme where suitable.</li> <li>• Targeted – focused on strengthening and accelerating growth in priority sectors, creating opportunities and unlocking further funding and inward investment.</li> <li>• Scale – deliver additionality and step-change benefits that is going to have a regional impact on people and business across the geography and go beyond intervention happening at a local authority level.</li> <li>• Collaborative – where possible, bring together a wide range of partners across Hull and East Yorkshire to work towards a shared goal.</li> </ul> <p>b. To refer the proposed Investment Principles to the HEYCA Scrutiny Committee, the Hull and East Yorkshire Business Advisory Board and Skills Advisory Board for their comments.</p> <p>c. Subject to there being no material change to the Principles following Scrutiny Committee and Business and Skills Boards’ review, to authorise the Interim Chief Executive, in consultation with the Interim S73 Officer and</p>	
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	<p>Interim Monitoring Officer to incorporate the Investment Principles into the HEYCA Assurance Framework.</p> <p>d. To support the application of the finalised Investment Principles to the assessment of projects within and to be submitted for the Hull and East Yorkshire Investment Plan, which will be brought back to the Board later in 2025.</p> <p><u>Reasons for Recommendations</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Clear investment principles are a fundamental and necessary component of the Investment Plan. They will guide investment decisions to ensure the realisation of the maximum benefit to the area is at the heart of decision making in a consistent and transparent way.</li> <li>• The proposed Investment Principles, once finalised and adopted, will underpin all investment decisions, including transport, skills, housing and economic development. It is therefore appropriate to seek feedback from the Combined Authority's Advisory Boards and Scrutiny Committee prior to being formally incorporated.</li> <li>• The proposed Investment Principles are aligned to the processes set out in the Assurance Framework. Incorporating the final version in the document will strengthen and increase the robustness and integration of decision making to reach the Combined Authority's strategic outcomes.</li> </ul>	
23.	<p><b>HULL AND EAST YORKSHIRE COMBINED AUTHORITY TRANSPORT FUNDING 2025/26</b></p> <p>The Interim Director of Finance (Section 73 Officer) submitted a report which sought approval from the Hull and East Yorkshire Combined Authority Board to accept the grant and, from the Mayor as part of his mayoral functions, to allocate the capital funding element of the Transport Block and Local Transport</p>	

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	<p>Grant Allocations awarded by the Department for Transport (DfT) for 2025/26 to Hull City Council and East Riding of Yorkshire Council.</p> <p>The Board was informed that the Combined Authority was now the Transport Authority for Hull and East Yorkshire; that three funding streams had been announced; that the report recommended that the capital allocations were transferred to the constituent authorities, and that the revenue allocations remained with the Combined Authority.</p> <p>A discussion took place around the revenue allocation and how it would be used by the Combined Authority. The Board was informed that the revenue funding would remain with the Authority until the transport staffing arrangements had been agreed; that the constituent councils would require revenue funds to complete capital projects and staffing costs could be recharged to the Combined Authority, and that there would be Service Level Agreements in place for functions that would be carried out by the constituent authorities.</p> <p>Members commented that rail electrification had been part of the Devolution deal and would like to know whether there had been any further commitment to its progress.</p> <p><b>Agreed –</b></p> <p>That the Board approves</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The capital funding settlement (Local Transport Grant and Integrated Transport Block) and the local transport resource funding are accepted and included in the respective capital and revenue budgets of the Combined Authority, and</li> <li>£634,000 revenue allocation of the grant provided by the Local Transport Resource Funding is retained to help support transport staffing costs for the Combined Authority.</li> </ol> <p>That the Mayor approves</p>	
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	<p>a. The principle of distribution of the capital element of the DfT settlement for 2025/26, to allow the DfT local authority allocations to be paid to the Constituent Councils is approved, so that £10,788,423 will be transferred to Hull City Council and £8,743,148 will be transferred to East Riding of Yorkshire Council;</p> <p>b. The principle that other transport grants that may be received and defrayed in 2025/26 to be allocated to the Constituent Councils based on the formula provided by the DfT is agreed, and</p> <p>c. The Interim Monitoring Officer, in consultation with the Interim Section 73 Officer, is authorised to prepare and enter into appropriate grant funding arrangements with the Constituent Councils for all transport grants received during the 2025/26 financial year.</p> <p><u>Reasons for Recommendations</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The delivery of capital transport projects currently rests with the Constituent Councils within their respective areas and they are best placed to continue to deliver these projects for 2025/26.</li> <li>• This is because the grant funding allocation is for one year only and is intended for smaller capital projects which can be delivered within the year rather than large scale or multi-year schemes.</li> <li>• The Combined Authority is in a statutory transitional year in 2025/26 meaning that its transport powers are held concurrently with Constituent Councils until April 2026.</li> <li>• Payments of the grants will be made quarterly direct to the Combined Authority. Setting the principle of onward allocation aligns the capital funding with the Constituent Council delivering its own planned small-scale projects. It ensures the flow of money</li> </ul>	
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	<p>on a quarterly basis can be matched to the project delivery.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Under the 2025 Order that created the Combined Authority, the Mayor has the power to distribute funding for transport purposes to the Constituent Councils. This is a general mayoral function.</li> </ul>	
24.	<p><b>EAST RIDING UK SHARED PROSPERITY FUND 2025-26 – SUPPLEMENTARY ALLOCATION</b></p> <p>The Interim Director of Finance (Section 73 Officer) submitted a report which sought approval to agree to East Riding of Yorkshire Council's request that the revenue element of East Riding's UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF) allocation was supplemented from the Mayoral Investment Fund by £487,516 to the level it would have received had the Hull and East Yorkshire Combined Authority total UKSPF revenue allocation been apportioned on a 50:50 basis between the two constituent councils.</p> <p>The Board was informed that there had been a significant impact on the East Riding of Yorkshire following the reduction in the UKSPF and that its programme of activity would either have to be scaled back or in some cases would cease by the end of December 2025.</p> <p>Members discussed the report and commented that they were content with proposal and they agreed that a similar approach to allocation of funding should be taken by the Board should a similar scenario occur in the future.</p> <p><b>Agreed –</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. To agree to East Riding of Yorkshire Council's request that the revenue element of East Riding's UKSPF allocation is supplemented from the Mayoral Investment Fund by £487,516 to the level it would have received had the HEYCA total UKSPF revenue allocation been apportioned on a 50:50 basis between the two constituent authorities, and</li> </ul>	

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	<p>b. To agree that the supplemental revenue allocation of £487,516 be reported as match funding to the HEYCA 2025-26 UKSPF programme and included within the required monitoring and reporting returns to MHCLG.</p> <p><u>Reasons for Recommendations</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In the Autumn 2024 Budget, the Government announced that UKSPF funding would be continued for one further year into 2025- 26, but at a reduced rate. The overall reduction to revenue funding has disproportionately impacted on the East Riding of Yorkshire Council, resulting in a 48% reduction (£2,521,476) to their revenue allocation from the figure awarded for 2024-25.</li> <li>• If the supplementary revenue allocation is not approved, then the East Riding's UKSPF programme of activities across the Supporting Local Business and People and Skills investment priorities will either have to be scaled back even further or, in the worst-case scenario, cease at the end of December 2025, meaning there will be a gap in the delivery of key services impacting on the business and voluntary and community sectors and residents across the East Riding.</li> </ul>	
25.	<p><b>GREAT BRITISH ENERGY'S MAYORAL RENEWABLES FUND</b></p> <p>The Interim Chief Executive submitted a report which requested the Board to note that the Combined Authority had worked with the Hull and East Yorkshire Business Growth and Skills Hub (HEY BGS Hub), Hull City Council (HCC), and East Riding of Yorkshire Council (ERYC) to develop and submit one primary application of £700,000 and two supplementary applications of £522,457 and £400,000 to the Great British Energy Mayoral Renewables Fund and sought authorisation to accept such funding if granted and subsequent allocation to the two Constituent Authorities to carry</p>	

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	<p>out the relevant renewable energy generation projects.</p> <p>The Board was informed that the Government had announced funding which only Combined Authorities could apply for; that it had been suggested that the funding, if awarded, was split 50:50 between Hull and East Riding of Yorkshire; that the proposed projects would generate savings of £3.8m over 25 years; that the process that had been used to select to projects, contained within the funding bids, had been similar to that used by other authorities; that the outcome announcements had been delayed however it was suggested that the legal and governance work required to deliver the projects should be commenced to ensure that the projects could be progressed in a timely manner should be funding be awarded.</p> <p>A discussion took place and members expressed their support for the recommendations as renewable energy was an important issue within the region.</p> <p><b>Agreed –</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. That the Combined Authority delegates authority to the Monitoring Officer to enter into a Grant Funding Agreement with the Department of Energy Security and Net Zero (DESNZ) to accept up to £1,622,457 related to the Mayoral Renewables Fund, and</li> <li>b. That the Combined Authority delegates authority to the Monitoring Officer to enter into a Grant Funding Agreement with HCC and ERYC to grant up to £872,457 and £750,000, respectively, in alignment with and to deliver the outcome of the Mayoral Renewables Fund.</li> </ul> <p><u>Reasons for Recommendations</u> To allow the Combined Authority, HCC and ERYC to progress their net zero ambitions alongside financial sustainability.</p>	
26.	<b>FUTURE MEETING DATE</b>	

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	<p>The Interim Monitoring Officer explained that the next meeting of the Authority would be its Annual General Meeting.</p> <p><b>Agreed</b> – that the Annual General Meeting of the Hull and East Yorkshire Combined Authority will take place at 11.00am on 26<sup>th</sup> June 2025.</p>	
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