



## MINUTES OF CUMBRIA LEP SCRUTINY PANEL MEETING

5<sup>TH</sup> December 2017, Dodd & Co, Rosehill, Carlisle

**Present:** Chris Holmes (chair), David Beeby, Heather Bradley, David Moore, Graham Vincent, Suzanne Caldwell (minutes)

Apologies: Martin Ward

### 1. LEP REVIEW

Chris explained that the purpose of the meeting was for him to update on progress and agree next steps. He reminded the group that it does not have executive powers to force implementation of recommendations. The Scrutiny Panel was set up to check that the LEP is operating correctly and to its true potential, and if not make recommendations.

The next LEP Board meeting is on 19<sup>th</sup> January.

Chris has met with George Beveridge and shared the report and the recommendations letter with him, making clear the strong desire for change. The conclusion of the meeting was that George would resign quickly and in a positive way.

Chris then met Colin Glover (as the public sector lead when the Review was instigated) and Rob Johnston (as the private sector lead). He shared a copy of the report and a copy of the letter but took the letters back at the end of the meeting. Both were asked to treat with confidentiality.

He chased George for progress on his resignation last week. George's response was that he is working with the comms team and has informed Graham Haywood of the situation. Also that he is in London on LEP business this week so there will be nothing coming out until next week.

Graham raised the Industrial Strategy which highlights the role of LEPs, underlining the need for a LEP that will deliver for Cumbria.

Following discussion it was agreed that, to enable work towards the recommendations to move forward:

- Chris will tell George that as information is now getting out and rumours starting there is a need to get the report and recommendations out quickly now so the process can be started and to this end his resignation statement is needed by Monday next week, or at the latest Tuesday morning.
- Suzanne is to draft a softer version of the current letter for approval by the Panel, for subsequent sharing.
- This amended letter plus the report is to be send on Tuesday night to:
  - o George and Graham H for circulation to the LEP Board
  - o Alan Smith as Chair of Cumbria Leaders' Board for circulation to that Board



Cumbria  
**Local Enterprise  
Partnership**

unleashing potential through partnership

- Rob as Chair of the Private Sector Advisory Panel for circulation to that Panel
- Scrutiny Panel
- Following today's meeting Chris will ring Colin and Rob

This will enable Rob to schedule an Advisory Panel meeting for Wednesday to start the recruitment process to replace George and Jackie on the Board and put in place an Interim and then permanent Chair.