

**LIVERPOOL CITY REGION LOCAL NATURE PARTNERSHIP
BOARD MEETING
NOTES AND ACTIONS**

Date:	9 th February 2016	
Present:	Gideon Ben-Tovim (GBT)	Chair
	Stephen Ayliffe (SA)	Natural England
	Alison Ball (AB)	Arup & Partners Ltd
	Paul Booth (PBO)	Riverside Group
	Dave Callan (DC)	Chair of the Local Access Forum
	Michelle Cameron (MC)	Liverpool Chamber of Commerce
	Mark Chadwick (MC)	Environment Agency
	Caroline Davies (CDA)	Knowsley Council
	Dr Alan Jemmett (AJ)	Merseyside Environmental Advisory
	Dave McAleavy (DM)	Sefton Council
	Richard Mawdsley (RM)	Peel Group
	Clare Oliver (CO)	The Mersey Forest
	Tim Jones (TJ)	St Helens Council
	Anne Selby (AS)	The Wildlife Trust
	Iain Taylor (IT)	The Land Trust
	Don Thompson (DT)	Merseyside Environmental Trust
Nick Thompson (NT)	CPRE	
Richard Tracey (RT)	Richard Tracey Ltd	
Apologies:	Prof. Peter Batey (PB)	University of Liverpool
	Sarah Dewar (SD)	Liverpool Clinical Commissioning
	Paul Nolan (PN)	The Mersey Forest
	Caroline Riley (CR)	Healthy Waterways Trust

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	Paul Sanderson (PS)	St Helens Council
	Stephen Sykes (SS)	EMANSYS
	Paul Wright (PW)	Halton Borough Council
Circulation:	As above and Board members.	
Item	Comments	Action
1.0	Introduction	
2.0	Apologies: As above	
3.0	Minutes and Actions from the previous meeting The minutes were agreed as an accurate record.	All
4.0	Update from Chair on his meetings <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chair reported on various meetings he has attended including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ ESIF Board ○ Work on Technical Assistant and SUD has borne fruit ○ Meeting planned with Robert Hough 	
5.0	Nature Connected, LEP and Combined Authority <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AJ reported on progress with the Devolution Agreement. A Strategy Spatial Framework for the City Region to be in place by 2020 starting with a non-statutory spatial priorities plan by Spring 2016 which was based on existing work and the Duty to Co-operate Statement prepared by planning colleagues. NC can play role in evidence collation feeding it through the Housing and Spatial Planning Board. Mike Palin (St. Helens) is the lead Chief Executive of the local authorities. The SSF is in addition to Local Plans and should be more strategic in focus – infrastructure schemes, strategic housing and strategic 	All

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	<p>employment sites. The scope has yet to be defined so there is opportunity for NE to engage and ensure that the SSF has an appropriate evidence base and is strong on infrastructure (broadly defined) we are awaiting further details.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AJ suggested that the Board initially maintained a watching brief and also signalled it NC's willingness to engage in the process. AJ recommended that the Board registered an interest and that it is kept on the agenda for future meetings. • AB reported on the recently produced prospectus "Green Infrastructure in the Liverpool City Region - A pipeline of commissionable projects" Technical Report and prospectus that Arup (with partners) had been commissioned by the LEP and NC to produce. This set out the case for GI in the region and how renewable energy on derelict land could generate an income for green infrastructure. • PN and AB had met with Mark Knowles. Arup to meet with Mike Palin. • SUD work: changes in Feed in Tariffs meant that numbers in technical document are being re-run via work through the LEP. • Positive that the SUD proposals resonate with Simon O'Brien's report. AJ noted that the next step for the SUD was likely to be a call for proposals – as yet it was uncertain whether this would be a local or national call \ programme. • Horizon 2020 call for GI projects that may be of interest to NC Board agreed that NC should be engaged with City Region Spatial Strategy and that partners continue to develop projects and programmes through the ESIF and H2020 programmes, reporting back to the Board on progress. 	<p>PN</p> <p>AB</p> <p>all</p>
<p>6.0</p>	<p>Green Infrastructure Framework</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CO presented a paper attached by PN which provided an update on the delivery of the key activities in the LCR GI Framework launched in December 2013. The Board was invited to provide comments on the update. • Many of the activities discussed during Board meeting included opportunities for members to update paper eg. changes in River Mersey following Heseltine's intervention. • RM - need to pick up traction with LEP following departure of Alan Welby. AJ working with LEP on renewable work. • IT: Land Trust are undertaking programme of re-configuring parks for the long-term. • PB: Riverside Lee Valley pre/post evaluation of use following investment into green space around housing. 	<p>All</p> <p>GBT</p>

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	GBT asked for Board members to provide any further updates to the GI Framework.	All
7.0	<p>Health Update and Actions from last Board Meeting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CO gave an update on the Natural Health Service and the Big Lottery funded programme of Nature4Health. • GBT: proposed that NC to continue to support and promote this important work. • CS: Knowsley bidding for Head Start monies and would like to deliver it as part of the Natural Health Service. 	All
8.0	<p>Rethinking Parks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CD updated the Board on the Nesta funded Rethinking Parks programme and lessons learnt around the country from the pilot sites around reducing costs and generating income. • Other examples of financing mechanisms that Board members were aware of were discussed. • Local authority officers keen to learn given forthcoming significant budgetary constraints. • Discussion around role of volunteers and the need to support and facilitate volunteers to deliver rather than simply transfer the asset with no support framework. <p>Update to be reported at next board meeting.</p>	
9.0	<p>Ecological Network for Liverpool City Region</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AJ: The Ecological Network is undergoing approval processes with the districts. The housing allocation provides opportunity to deliver on the ground. 	
10.0	<p>Work Plan updates</p> <p>Mersey Task Force</p> <p>AJ: The Task Force is seeking to engage with the Combined Authority in relation to clean river and the Devolution Agreement. A further update, including economic valuation work, would be provided at a future Board meeting.</p>	

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	<p>Green Partnership/Gather</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MC: Chamber of Commerce is great way to get the message to business organisations. • Stephen Sykes from NC Board chairs the Energy & Environment Forum – good links with businesses for the forthcoming legislation around volunteering activities. Charity networking events. • MC: The Gather website was established as a place to share news, ideas and good practice by Liverpool & Sefton Chambers of Commerce working with the Liverpool Green Partnership. When ERDF funding ceased last June, there was a reduction in activity. Chamber now maintaining the website and encouraging more use. Potential to make Gather a key repository for information/support to which all partners can contribute and promote. It could be a key element in any revised communications strategy. • Opportunities for partners to become moderators; the Chamber can provide training. In the meantime send links of news stories, blogs and events to: editorial@liverpoolchamber.org.uk. <p>Atlantic Gateway Parklands</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Good article in TCPA journal on Park City – see attached. • Friends of Flyover developing hub of activity. • Working with Liverpool University & NW Business Leadership Team to develop event for IFB2016 at the new RIBA North offices on Mann Island focusing on a sustainable and resilient Northern Powerhouse. This will include the launch of Liverpool Institute for Sustainable and Resilient Cities (LISARC). <p>LEADER</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Launched 10 February 2016 	all
11.0	<p>Any Other Business</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AJ reported that Natural England had decided not to continue funding local environmental record centres. This would affect Merseyside BioBank and the work of dedicated volunteers as it undermined the whole basis of the local environmental and biological reporting partnership and process. AJ proposed a letter of concern from the Board to Natural England and requesting that the decision is re-considered. This was approved by the Board. AS reported that this was a 	

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	<p>matter of interest and concern to the Wildlife Trust .</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Changes to Landfill Tax. CD and AS reported that, due to concerted pressure from wide range of environmental organisations, the proposed changes set out in the Spending Review have now been withdrawn. • RM: impressed with what NC has achieved. Important to broadcast messages to lead the region with evidence and insight. Agreed to discuss Communications Strategy at the next Board meeting. Suggestion that partners continue to share stories of all activities, particularly using social media. • Discussion around LEP representation on NC Board. GBT to follow up at forthcoming meeting with Robert Hough. <p>Partner Updates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • IT: The Land Trust has just produced a short report highlighting value of green space. • MC: Aligned River Basin Management Plan and Flood Risk Management plans should be available online early 2016. • NT: Free CPRE event on neighbourhood planning in Preston on 15 March. • RM: Activity at Wirral Waters with Wirral Met and the University of Chester Health Faculty. Evaluation of impact on community. • DM: Sefton Council are updating Countryside Management Plan driven by the Local Plan process. • PB: Riverside Housing undergoing process of reorganisation, focussing on core business with fewer opportunities for project work. • AS: LWT awarded grant from Big Lottery to support mental wellbeing in children. • RT: Liverpool CIC in receipt of funding from Tesco Carrier Bag Scheme for city allotment project. 	<p>GBT</p>
<p>12.0</p>	<p>Next Meeting</p> <p>2:00 p.m. 10th May 2016 at Arup Offices</p>	