

**AGENDA ITEM 7**

**REPORT TO THE TEESSIDE FREEPORT GOVERNANCE BOARD**

**20<sup>th</sup> JANUARY 2022**

**REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF BUSINESS AND SKILLS**

**UPDATE FROM THE INWARD INVESTMENT AND INNOVATION WORKSTREAM**

**SUMMARY**

The purpose of this paper is to update the Freeport Governance Board on the activities of the Inward Investment and Innovation workstream.

**RECOMMENDATIONS**

It is recommended that the updates are noted.

**DETAIL**

1. The Inward Investment and Innovation workstream met on 1<sup>st</sup> December. Andy Preston, Middlesbrough Mayor, chaired the meeting, supported by Chris Beck, Director of Business and Skills, and Nolan Gray, Freeport Director.
2. The meeting focused on 3 primary areas:
  - i. Teesside Freeport launch and marketing
  - ii. Innovation activity
  - iii. Skills agenda
3. Draft minutes of the meetings are attached.

**FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

4. There are no financial implications arising from this report.

**LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

5. There are no specific legal implications arising from this report.

**RISK ASSESSMENT**

6. There are no specific risk implications arising from this report.

## **CONSULTATION & COMMUNICATION**

7. This meeting represents a stakeholder engagement event, with the minutes from the meeting shared with the Freeport Board.

## **EQUALITY & DIVERSITY**

8. No specific impacts on groups of people with protected characteristics have been identified

**Name of Contact Officer: Chris Beck**

**Post Title: Director of Business & Skills**

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**FREEPORT INWARD INVESTMENT & INNOVATION WORKSTREAM MINUTES**

Date: Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> December 2021

Time: 1pm

Meeting took place using Microsoft Teams

Attendees:		Apologies:
Andy Preston (AP)	Middlesbrough Mayor	[Redacted] - TeesWorks
[Redacted]	AV Dawson	[Redacted] - Liberty Steel
[Redacted]	PD Ports	[Redacted] - Sembcorp
[Redacted]	Redcar Bulk Terminal	[Redacted] - Andy Laundon (AL)
[Redacted]	LV Shipping	[Redacted] - WUGL
<del>Noil Etherington (NE)</del>	Able UK	
[Redacted]	Darlington Borough Council	
[Redacted]	Wilton Centre	
[Redacted]	Middlesbrough Borough Council	
[Redacted]	Redcar & Cleveland Borough Council	
[Redacted]	Stockton Borough Council	
[Redacted]	Hartlepool Borough Council	
Chris Rowell (CR)	Tees Valley Combined Authority	
Nolan Gray (NG)	Tees Valley Combined Authority	
Chris Beck (CB)	Tees Valley Combined Authority	
[Redacted]	Sembcorp	
[Redacted]	Tees Valley Combined Authority	

No.	Agenda Item	Summary of Discussion	Actions Required	Responsibility
1.	Introductions			
2.	Apologies	As above		
3	Minutes of Previous Meeting	Confirmed by all members as a true and accurate record.		

4.	Declarations of Interest	None		
5.	Update on inward investment & marketing activity	<p>NG – gave an overview of the paper – focus on the launch and the website is now LIVE – NG asked that everyone check the website and let NG know if any changes are required.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Deloitte's held an event in region recently – well received with new investors coming into the region for this event.</li> <li>• Event in Brussels – We were the only Freeport represented at this event – making good links internationally.</li> <li>• Marketing plan – 2022/23, pulling this together and cabinet to sign off. Will share the detail once we have further clarity.</li> <li>• Branding – NG can send out with a toolkit for use for events and presentations</li> </ul>		
6.	Update on relevant innovation projects	<p>CB gave an overview of projects -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Life sciences is growing in Darlington –</li> <li>• Net Zero centre is being built at Teesamp</li> <li>• Hydrogen transport hub – awaiting funding</li> <li>• Looking at funding for levelling up</li> <li>• Working with DfT – how we can decarbonise ports</li> <li>• Digitisation and Trade barriers are the big projects we are working on – digital trials in the next 2 weeks</li> </ul>		
7.	Update on relevant skills projects	<p>CB gave an update to members</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Skills support is now available</li> <li>• Working through Teesworks Academy</li> <li>• ELSIP – skills requirement, chamber to write a report</li> </ul>		
8.	Development of Full Business Case	<p>NG gave an overview to members:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• FBC guidance has now been issued – shared with the A&amp;C workstream</li> <li>• Delayed submission to 31 January</li> </ul>		

9	Forward Plan	NG informed members that going forward the workstream meetings will be held for 1 hour and book in meetings 4 <sup>th</sup> Wednesday of the month at 13:00. Take a view when into the cycle next year do we need to extend the time or occurrence.		
10.	Action Register	NG few actions open –open actions include skills areas Freeport need in the future, action 12: Buses – this has been reflected by the transport team. CB – bus action - team are in discussion with both councils.		
11	Date and Time of Next Meeting	26 <sup>th</sup> January 2022 13:00		