

**Minutes of a meeting of the East Midlands Freeport Board held on 1 March 2024 at County Hall, Glenfield.**

**PRESENT**

Nora Senior – Independent Chair

Landowners/Developers

Phil Canning – Uniper  
Steve Griffiths – East Midlands Airport  
Chris Lewis – Maritime Transport  
Andrew Pilsworth – SEGRO  
Peter Ralston – Goodman  
Ioan Reed-Aspley – East Midlands Airport  
Frank Robotham – Maritime Transport  
Julie Rossiter – Etwall Land Limited  
Imogen Smazanovich – SEGRO

Local Authorities

Mr Lee Breckon CC – Leicestershire County Council  
Councillor Neil Clarke – Rushcliffe Borough Council  
Councillor Keith Girling – Nottinghamshire County Council  
Councillor Tony King – Derbyshire County Council  
Councillor Keith Merrie – North West Leicestershire District Council  
Councillor Stephen Taylor – South Derbyshire District Council

Accountable Body Officers

John Sinnott – Chief Executive  
Lauren Haslam – Director of Law and Governance  
Nick Wash – Head of Service, Finance  
Gemma Duckworth – Senior Democratic Services Officer

Also in Attendance

DLUHC Official  
Sam Boyd-Williams – WSP  
Katie Greenhalgh – Environment and Net Zero Carbon Programme Lead, East Midlands Freeport  
Derek Higton – Nottinghamshire County Council  
Richard Hiscoke – Bevan Brittan  
Justin Ives – South Derbyshire District Council  
Kath Marriott – Rushcliffe Borough Council  
Tom Newman-Taylor – Chief Executive, East Midlands Freeport  
Jim Seymour – Derbyshire County Council  
Allison Thomas – North West Leicestershire District Council

1.	<p><b><u>Declarations of Interest.</u></b></p> <p>The Chair invited members who wished to do so to declare an interest in respect of items on the agenda.</p> <p>No declarations were made, although the Chair noted that SEGRO and MAG representatives had an interest in the seed capital applications which were to be discussed. Uniper and Maritime Transport also had an interest in the seed capital allocation decisions.</p>	
2.	<p><b><u>Minutes.</u></b></p> <p>The minutes of the Board meeting held on 29 January 2024 were agreed.</p>	
3.	<p><b><u>Minutes of Board Members.</u></b></p> <p>The Board ratified the minutes of the informal meeting of Board Members held on 14 February 2024.</p>	
4.	<p><b><u>Chair's Update.</u></b></p> <p>The Chair provided the following update on activity since the last meeting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consultation was being undertaken by North West Leicestershire District Council in relation to its draft Local Plan. EMF intended to respond to this.</li> </ul>	
5.	<p><b><u>CEO Update.</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The CEO reported that a letter had been received from DLUHC confirming a tax site extension plan. Feedback was expected from DLUHC shortly along with proposed next steps. EMF was in a positive position in relation to this. The CEO also stated that Freeports collectively were pushing DLUHC for a cross Freeport approach.</li> <li>• Subsidy control guidance from DLUHC was expected within the next week and seed capital guidance had been received in draft form. This would be shared with the billing authorities and a meeting would be arranged to discuss.</li> <li>• Correspondence between Ruth Edwards MP and the Transport Minister in relation to J24 works had been shared with the Board. This confirmed that an early stage initial needs assessment had been commissioned, which was felt to be a positive step forward.</li> <li>• The Teeside Freeport Report, commissioned by the Secretary of State for DLUHC, had been shared with the Board and would be discussed at a future meeting.</li> </ul>	TN-T

6.	<p><b><u>Update on any Events/Milestones.</u></b></p> <p>Board members were given the opportunity to provide an update on any events/milestones which had occurred since the last meeting of the Board. No updates were given.</p>	
7.	<p><b><u>Seed Capital Projects.</u></b></p> <p>Four projects had been shortlisted for the consideration for receipt of seed capital funding. These were felt to align with EMF objectives, following a rigorous evaluation process involving the Freeports Hub to confirm that they met the minimum thresholds for consideration by the S151 Subcommittee and the Board.</p> <p>Following the presentations, Private Sector Directors were required to leave the meeting to enable the Public Sector Directors to have a further discussion on the projects and make decisions as to seed capital allocation.</p>	

**11.15am – 4.20pm**

**1 March 2024**

**Chair**