

**Trafford Economic Alliance**  
**Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> May 2011, 2.00pm – 3.30pm**  
**Trafford College**  
**Boardroom**

**Minutes of the Meeting**

**1. Chairs Welcome & Introduction**

The Chair Chris Fletcher opened the meeting by welcoming partners and followed with the introduction of attendees and apologies as listed below.

**2. Attendance and Apologies**

<b>Attended</b>	<b>Apologies</b>
Chris Fletcher (GMCCI)	Lisa Hooley (Human Resources TMBC)
Nick Gerrard (Economic Growth & Prosperity TMBC)	Debbie Cowley (Arts & Culture TMBC)
Suzanne Hilton (Regeneration & Economic Development TMBC)	Matthew Gardiner (THT)
Paul Corner (Economic Development TMBC)	Dominic Smith (Transport TMBC)
Debbie Thompson (Economic Development TMBC)	Alison Reid (Trafford Centre)
Elaine Heeler ( 14 – 19 Partnership)	Rachel Hiorns (Strategic Planning TMBC)
Penny Bell (Town Centre Partnerships)	David Proudlove (HCA)
Kay Harwood (Trafford Tourism Association)	John Smith ( Altrincham Partnership)
Elaine Wood (Regeneration TMBC)	Stephen Bailey (NAS)
Tony Ward (Manufacturing Advisory Service)	Colin Billingsley (Job Centre Plus)
Joan Scott (Trafford College)	
Alison Gordon (New Economy)	
Rosie Gregson (Skills Funding Agency)	
Roy Egan (Human Resources TMBC)	
Kirsty Roberts (Human Resources TMBC)	
Andy Carr (Job Centre Plus)	
Julia Finegan (Skills Funding Agency)	
Dave Nunns (VCAT)	

3. **The note of the last meeting held on the 10<sup>th</sup> March 2011** was agreed and an update on the actions from that meeting were given as follows:

<p><b>Actions :</b> From the last TEA meeting on 10<sup>th</sup> March 2011</p> <p><b>Action 1 – JEREMIE</b>  A presentation on JEREMIE will be brought the next meeting of TEA on Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> August.</p> <p><b>Action 2 – Skills &amp; Work</b>  TEA Partners will :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Review the impact of skills policy and funding changes on Trafford (Trafford ED &amp; SFA)</li> <li>o Scope out the development of a local Employment and Skills Plan (Trafford ED)</li> <li>o Establish a provider Network for Trafford ( Trafford ED, SFA &amp; DWP)</li> <li>o Begin to develop a Trafford intelligence Hub ( Trafford ED)</li> <li>o Develop a working knowledge of the SFA Data Sharing Service</li> </ul> <p><b>Action 3 – Apprenticeships</b>  From Monday 9<sup>th</sup> May:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o The Trafford Apprenticeships 40 /40 campaign was launched (see <a href="http://www.trafford.gov.uk/jobs/apprenticeships">http://www.trafford.gov.uk/jobs/apprenticeships</a> for more details)</li> <li>o NAS advisor Stephen Bailey is based in the Council's Regeneration &amp; Economic Development Service for one day per week to promote apprenticeships to Trafford's larger employers</li> <li>o The take up of these initiatives will be reported to TEA at the next meeting August.</li> </ul>
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#### 4. Regional Growth Fund Update – Suzanne Hilton

##### Key points:

- Round 2 opened on the 12 April 2011 with the publication of guidance and call for Expressions of Interest (EOI) by 3<sup>rd</sup> June and full applications by the 1<sup>st</sup> July 2011.
- Bids can be from Public / Private sector partnerships or from the Private sector and supported by the relevant LEP.
- Round 1 was over subscribed 10 fold and £4,5m was allocated so the decision has been taken by BIS to allocate the remaining amount of the £1 billion in round 2

##### **The round 2 position in Greater Manchester**

- GM's identified project will be reviewed by AGMA Chief Execs 12<sup>th</sup> May 2011
- Friday 13<sup>th</sup> 2011 was the deadline for projects to prepare draft EOIs to discuss with BIS at the North West Road show event in Preston of 17<sup>th</sup> May 2011
- GM have pulled together a core RGF to develop a pipeline of projects to deliver the Greater Manchester Strategy which will be ready to access other funding streams and appropriate financing opportunities.

##### **Trafford RGF projects**

- Trafford will have better idea by Friday 13<sup>th</sup> May 2011 if there will be any Trafford projects on the GM list
- Trafford is also part of the GM Business Support project being led by Manchester Solutions

<b>Actions – RGF</b>
<b>Action 1</b> - Trafford will continue to identify suitable projects to take advantage of other sources of funding as they become available.

#### 5. Tackling Worklessness in priority areas – Paul Corner

##### Key Points:

- A paper was tabled detailing proposals for how TEA will strengthen its links with the communities in our priority neighbourhoods of Old Trafford, Sale West and Partington.
- There is a need to work more collaboratively on common themes across all three areas to avoid duplication and dilution of effort and resource.
- The Sale West Employment and Skills Action Plan provided an example of the work which needs to be coordinated across all three areas.

<b>Actions - Tackling Worklessness in priority areas</b>
<b>Action 1</b> - Each of the three operational groups in Old Trafford, Partington and Sale West have their core activity merged to consolidate resources., including establishing a baseline against which the group can present itself to account
<b>Action 2</b> – The Sale West Action Plan to be fused with the recommendations that appeared at the last update (Appendix 1a) to follow nationally funded programmes and elevate the work
<b>Action 3</b> – A separate paper will be discussed at the Trafford Partnership board on the 12 <sup>th</sup> May for consideration and Imran Khan is to feedback to TEA, as TEA chair Chris Fletcher will not be present.

## 6. LAA Reward – Suzanne Hilton

A paper was tabled bringing two items together for TEA to consider

### Key Points:

- TEA has exceeded its 2007-2010 LAA reward target on VAT Registrations in sectors J & K, and as result been allocated £34,078 of revenue reward grant by the Trafford Partnership
- Loss of NWDA funding for the Intensive Business Start Up Support Programme (ISUS) means that the match is no longer in place to draw down the balance of ERDF to support the final year of the programme. (see paper for details of the ISUS Programme)
- TEA were asked to consider if £34,078 of LAA reward could be allocated to fund the continuation of the ISUS programme to replace lost NWDA funding. £31,680 of the LAA reward would draw down £26,400 ERDF which would otherwise be lost to Trafford to secure the programme's final year.
- Before making their decision TEA were asked to consider how ISUS would work along side the New Enterprise Allowance Scheme, which will go live in GM Central and Cheshire & Warrington from 1<sup>st</sup> August 2011. (see Enterprise Allowance note for more details)
- Part of the work preparing for the RGF round 2 Business Support proposal for GM by Manchester Solutions, concluded that the two initiatives would be complementary

### Actions – LAA Reward & ISUS

There was unanimous agreement from TEA partners present at the meeting to use the 2007 - 2010 LAA revenue Reward Grant to match the available ERDF in order to continue to fund the ISUS programme in Trafford for the period 2012- 13.

**Action 1** - TEA's recommendation to be taken to the Trafford Partnership Board on the 12<sup>th</sup> May, in respect of the Reward Grant and also the GM Enterprise Group in respect of the ISUS Programme.

For this recommendation to be communicated in writing by TEA to Jane Stephenson.

**Action 2** – TEA to consider developing other projects, to enable them to either individually or collaboratively bid into the Trafford Partnership Reward Grant pot to fund other projects (as there is approximately £1.5 million of Reward Grant which is as yet un-committed. The Grant is split 70:30, revenue: capital there is also an opportunity for thematic partnerships to swap capital for revenue, or vice versa and to pool funds for capital projects.

## 7. Economy Monitoring Report

A draft mock up a 'new' style for the Economy Monitoring Report was circulated to TEA

### Key Points:

- The report was originally to serve the purpose of monitoring the impact of the recession and the success of responses introduced. It subsequently became a more generic quarterly economy monitoring report.
- There is the opportunity to produce something which is more attractive, easy to read and user friendly.
- The document which will enable TEA to identify and consider trends in the economy (nationally, sub-regionally and locally) , key developments and opportunities open to Trafford's residential and business communities and promote partner and partnership initiatives which contribute to enhanced economic prosperity.

### Actions – Economy Monitoring Report

**Action 1** – TEA agreed the new style of the Report

**Action 2** - Partners will to contribute items to be included in the report on a quarterly basis the next report is to be completed for June 2011

**8. Future Meetings.** The dates of future meetings will be circulated. The next TEA meeting is on the 2<sup>nd</sup> August 2011 at Sale Waterside

**9. AOB**

**SFA**

Provided the link below, to the adult and community learning fund. This supports learning opportunities that engage and motivate disadvantaged adults and families.

Applications must be submitted by Friday 10 June

<http://www.niace.org.uk/current-work/adult-and-community-learning-fund-aclf>

**The Trafford Partnership**

The Partnership is planning several business "lectures" in order to establish topics that businesses wish to discuss with the Trafford Partnership. Events are being held between

7.45am to 9.00pm

20<sup>th</sup> June – Sale Point

27<sup>th</sup> June - Warren Bruce Court

30<sup>th</sup> June – Altrincham Town Hall

The capacity will be 40 businesses per session.

TEA partners are requested to supply contacts to the Trafford Partnership to assist with recruiting businesses to the events. Details of which can be forwarded to Debbie Thompson

**Trafford United Credit Union**

It was reported that Trafford United Credit Union is looking at its future and the sustainability of its funding model.

One option is a sponsorship programme

Further discussions need to take place with Linda Harper, Director Commissioning and Service Development and this may possibly brought back to TEA.