

**EAST MIDLANDS REGIONAL ASSEMBLY
REGIONAL SCRUTINY BOARD**

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 3rd OCTOBER 2005

<u>Present:</u>	<u>Apologies</u>	<u>In attendance</u>	<u>Secretariat</u>
<p><u>Chair:</u> Martin Traynor</p> <p><u>Vice Chair:</u> Cllr R Begy</p> <p><u>LGA Representatives:</u> Cllr A Grant Cllr B Kirby Cllr G Porter Cllr M Radulovic Cllr G Ridge Cllr P Valentine</p> <p><u>ESEP Representatives:</u> Mr G Lammie Mr F Lucas Ms P Zadora</p>	<p><u>LGA Representative:</u> Cllr J Ashton Cllr M Hill</p> <p><u>ESEP Representative:</u> Mr T Roache</p>	<p><u>GOEM</u> Roger Poole Martin Gorman</p> <p><u>emda</u> <u>Ron Whittaker</u> <u>Abby Johnson-</u> <u>Brennan</u> <u>Glen Harris</u> <u>Anthony Payne</u> <u>Nicola Kidd</u> <u>Andrew Morgan</u> <u>Steve Mulligan</u></p>	<p>Stuart Young Matthew Wheatley Lucy Powles</p>

1.	Welcome and Apologies
1.1	<u>Apologies</u> Apologies were received from Cllr J Ashton, Cllr M Hill and Mr T Roache.
1.2	Martin Traynor, Regional Scrutiny Board Chair, welcomed Members to the meeting.
2.	Declaration of Interest
2.1	There were no declarations of interest
3.	Minutes of the previous meeting held on 18th July 2005
3.1	The following amendments were suggested and agreed:
3.1.1	<u>Minute 7.5</u> – should read ‘Abby Johnson-Brennan.’
3.1.2	<u>Minute 10.1</u> – the final sentence of which should read ‘Frank Lucas reported that Sustainable Development is fairly well understood and embedded in parts, but there is room for improvement.’
3.2	Subject to the above amendments the minutes were agreed as a true and accurate record.
4.	Matters Arising
4.1	The following updates were given:
4.1.1	<u>Minute 4.1</u> – Anthony Payne reported that the Urban Action Plan would be published shortly. Once available, Stuart Young requested that 30 copies be sent to EMRA for distribution.
4.1.2	<u>Minute 5 -</u> Pat Zadora referred Members to the Evaluation of <i>emda</i> ’s progress and proposals in meeting the recommendations of the Scrutiny Panel Review and highlighted the progress being made by <i>emda</i> . It was agreed that RSB should further consider this issue in March 2006. Glen Harris reported that the SSP ‘Shared Resource Centre’ (SRC) began work on 19 th September and is undertaking project appraisals for GNP, Welland and Lincolnshire Enterprise SSPs. The remaining SSPs are scheduled to use the SRC by 1 st December 2005. <i>emda</i> are currently considering whether to use the SRC to undertake their own project appraisals.
4.1.3	In response to a question from Cllr Graham Ridge, Glen confirmed that SSPs will be encouraged to work with District as well as County and Unitary authorities in the development of the economic development block of Local Area Agreements.
4.1.4	<u>Minute 6.1</u> – Cllr Peter Valentine, Chair Scrutiny Review Panel into the Effective Delivery of the Regional Tourism Strategy, reported that the panel held their first meeting on Thursday 29 th September 2005.
4.1.5	<u>Minute 10.2</u> – Martin Traynor thanked Frank Lucas, <i>emda</i> officers and the EMRA Secretariat for their efforts throughout the course of the Scrutiny Review into Sustainable Development.
4.1.6	<u>Minute 11.3</u> – It was noted that the Revised Scrutiny Protocol was being drafted.

4.1.7	Minute 11.6 – It was noted that this would be discussed with colleagues from <i>emda</i> and GO-EM within the context of developing the revised Scrutiny Protocol.
5.	East Midlands Regional Scrutiny Protocol
5.1	<u>Introduction</u>
5.1.1	This report was introduced by Stuart Young and referred members to the development of a revised Scrutiny Protocol, developed in agreement with <i>emda</i> and GOEM.
5.2	<u>Comments from Members</u>
5.2.1	Frank Lucas asked if the Centre for Public Scrutiny would be used to externally validate the Revised Scrutiny Protocol or if internal benchmarking would be used. Stuart Young responded that he would explore ways to secure an external viewpoint on the draft Protocol through the CfPS.
5.3	<u>Resolution</u>
	Members:
5.3.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> noted the current development of a revised Scrutiny Protocol.
5.3.2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SY to discuss the development of the Scrutiny Protocol with Jane Martin, Chief Executive of CfPS.
6.	Scrutiny Review into the Impact of Local Area Regeneration Schemes and the Effectiveness of Partnership Working in Delivering the Urban Regeneration Strand of the RES
6.1	<u>Introduction</u>
6.1.1	This report referred members to the proposed remit for a scrutiny review into the impact of local area based regeneration schemes and the effectiveness of partnership arrangements in delivering the urban regeneration element of the RES.
6.2	<u>Comments from Members</u>
6.2.1	Members felt the remit should also consider Local Enterprise Growth Initiative (LEGI) and business improvement districts BIDS, together with the economic development ‘block’ of Local Area Agreements. It was agreed that the brief was currently very broad and discussions between <i>emda</i> , GO-EM and EMRA officials would be useful in refining the brief and securing greater focus.
6.3	<u>Resolutions</u>
	Members:
6.3.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> considered and endorsed the remit for this proposed scrutiny review.
6.3.2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> nominated Pat Zadora to act as lead Regional Scrutiny Board Member for this review.
6.3.3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> agreed the final report would be considered by the Regional Scrutiny Board meeting in 22nd June 2005.
7.	Development of the Revised Regional Economic Strategy
7.1	<u>Introduction</u>
7.1.1	This report referred members to the proposed arrangements for the review of the Regional Economic Strategy.

7.2	<u>Comments from Members</u>
7.2.1	Members felt issues relating to 'skills', 'the age profile of the workforce' and the areas of the region 'lagging' behind in their economic performance should be included in the Revised Economic Strategy.
7.2.2	Frank Lucas highlighted his concerns over the current development of the Environment evidence base. In response, Abby Johnson-Brennan said that the delay in putting the Environment evidence base on the Intelligence East Midlands website was due to the consultation process and time issues relating to the undertaking of the Strategic Environmental Appraisal of their RES development work to date.
7.2.3	Cllr Peter Valentine suggested that the RES should not aim purely for job creation but emphasise creating jobs of a higher skill level.
7.2.4	Members considered how progress made by the East Midlands against the 'Visions for 2010 and 2020' should be measured. Abby Johnson-Brennan informed Members that other indicators are required as well as GDP and sometimes difficulties arose with availability of data.
7.2.5	There was general support for <i>emda</i> 's suggested move from a 'cluster' approach to business development to a 'sectoral' approach; although Members suggested that the basis for this revised approach would be helpful.
7.2.6	<i>emda</i> confirmed that they will consult with the Assembly over how the 'vision' in the RES should be monitored and the 'implementation plan' for the RES
7.3	<u>Resolutions</u>
	Members:
7.3.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> considered and discussed the Consultation Document within the context of the 3 Structural Themes, the 10 Strategic Priorities and the 14 questions.
7.3.2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> agreed to email any additional comments to Stuart Young for collation and action. (stuart.young@emra.gov.uk)
8.	<i>emda</i> Chief Executive's Report
	<u>Introduction</u>
8.1	This report referred Members to the Chief Executive's Monthly Reports for September 2005 and the timings for <i>emda</i> 's Performance Report to Government.
8.2	The RSB asked <i>emda</i> a number of questions relating to issues highlighted in this report:
8.2.1	<u>Para 4.4</u> - Could <i>emda</i> please advise the RSB on the benefits from Nottingham's designation as a 'Science City' to the whole Region and how other universities are likely to be involved?
8.2.2	<i>emda</i> 's original proposal for an 'East Midlands Science Ark' was not well received by government. Although there is no money from government to follow the 'Science City' designation, there are a number of benefits to the region, such as providing a focus for regional innovation and research work. Evaluation work on the earlier designation of York as a

	Science City, suggested many benefits had accrued to the wider Yorkshire and Humber region.
8.2.3	<u>Para 5.1</u> - Could <i>emda</i> please give the RSB further details of the new Training Academy in Nottingham that Toyota's have confirmed their support for, the benefits this will bring and the extent of Toyota's investment in this project?
8.2.4	It was noted that a full appraisal on the proposals by Toyota to set up a national academy had not yet been undertaken. However, <i>emda</i> representatives were able to inform that Toyota is looking to run a joint training centre with Broxtowe college at a new site. Members felt this would have positive benefits to the East Midlands.
8.2.5	<u>Para 5.2</u> - Could <i>emda</i> please give the RSB more details about the EMCBE and its contribution to the RES?
8.2.6	The meeting was informed that EMCBE was the East Midlands Centre for Business Excellence and that it was lead by the construction industry and was based at Loughborough University. Its contribution to the RES was looking to ensure best practice on sustainable construction. Abby Johnson-Brennan agreed to share with the RSB the output targets that EMCBE was expected to deliver in return for <i>emda</i> funding.
8.2.7	<u>Para 6.19</u> - What are the anticipated benefits from the new East Midlands Food Mall and how will it help the region?
8.2.8	In response to this question an article published in the Nottingham Evening Post was distributed to Members. It was felt this would have positive benefits to the region, although it would be necessary to ensure that the proposal did not have any adverse impacts on the region's Farmers Markets.
8.3	<u>General</u> - Could <i>emda</i> please confirm the actual capital and revenue split for 2005/6, and indicate if there are likely to be any significant under spends in this financial year?
8.3.1	<i>emda</i> informed that they were not expecting an under spend for 2005/2006 and that the capital / revenue split was as anticipated in their Corporate Plan.
8.3.2	<u>Resolutions</u> Members: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • noted the timings for <i>emda</i> Half Year Output Target Performance Report and considered <i>emda</i>'s Chief Executive's Reports for September 2005. • considered <i>emda</i>'s response to previously submitted written questions and asked supplementary questions as appropriate.

9.	<i>emda's Response to Scrutiny Panel Report, 'The East Midlands and FDI'</i>
9.1	<u>Introduction</u>
9.1.1	This report referred Members to the formal response of <i>emda</i> to the final report and the recommendations of the scrutiny panel review into the role and activities of <i>emda</i> in supporting foreign direct investment (FDI) in the region.
9.2	<u>Resolutions</u>
	Members:
9.2.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> considered the formal response of <i>emda</i> to the FDI scrutiny panel scrutiny review.
9.2.2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> considered and endorsed the 'way forward' as set out in the report. agreed a review to be undertaken in 12 months.
10.	<i>emda's Response to Scrutiny Review into Sustainable Development</i>
10.1	<u>Introduction</u>
10.1.1	This report referred Members to the response of <i>emda</i> to the final report and recommendations of 'Towards Sustainable Development?' the Scrutiny Review into the Sustainability of Key Elements of <i>emda's</i> Work in Delivering the Regional Economic Strategy
10.2	<u>Comments from Members</u>
10.2.1	Working with Assembly officers, it was agreed that <i>emda</i> would provide further information on the actions that they have undertaken and their impact in subsequent reports scheduled to be considered by RSB.
10.3	<u>Resolutions</u>
	Members:
10.3.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> considered the formal response of <i>emda</i> to 'Towards Sustainable Development?'
10.3.2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> considered and endorsed the way forward as proposed in the report.
11.	Regeneration East Midlands
11.1	<u>Introduction</u>
11.1.1	This report referred members to recent progress and achievements in the development of Regeneration East Midlands.
11.2	<u>Resolutions</u>
	Members:
11.2.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> considered the enclosed report on the progress of REM.
12.	Any Other Business
12.1	There was no other business.
13.	Date of Next Meeting
13.1	The date of the next meeting of the Regional Scrutiny Board was confirmed as 2pm on Thursday 12 th January 2006.