



Welcome letter from Simon Bird – Interim Chair

Humber Freeport is one of only eight locations announced as part of the Government's ambitious UK Freeports programme, and it will play a central role in unlocking investment opportunities, delivering new jobs and creating new business opportunities in the growing decarbonisation sector.

The Humber Freeport is an exciting development for the Humber region. It will harness our region's key strengths in offshore wind/green energy and advanced manufacturing. We have a strong partnership in place between public and private sectors to capitalise on the offshore wind opportunities and decarbonisation efforts. The Humber region also has a strong manufacturing base and a history of a vibrant maritime sector.

The Humber Freeport is a strong collaboration between the public/private sectors, and over the last couple of years has worked to develop an ambitious Freeport proposal. We have recently completed our final submissions to government, following the approval of the Outline Business case, and we expect the formal approval to our Full Business Case soon.

Plans are in place to establish a Limited Company to oversee the delivery of an ambitious plan to accelerate economic growth and deliver the benefits for our businesses and local communities. We are at a critical stage, and we need a leadership team that will drive forward this complex and exciting opportunities. An appointment of a permanent Chair and a CEO to lead the Freeport Company is part of this process.

It has been a privilege to hold the role of Interim Chair and support the project team as they have navigated a robust process to get to this stage. I now look forward to handing over to a permanent Chair who will guide, advise and help shape the Humber Freeport for the future.

We are keen to hear from candidates for the CEO and Chair roles who will be a strong champion and advocate for the Humber Freeport and bring their high-level leadership skills and experience to the table.

Yours

Simon Bird

Regional Director Humber, Associated British Ports