

BLACK COUNTRY LOCAL ENTERPRISE PARTNERSHIP
MEETING OF THE PARTNERSHIP BOARD

Monday 22nd October 2018 at 3.00pm at
Dudley College, The Broadway, Dudley

DECISION NOTICE

Minute No.	Item	
	In attendance	<p>Private Sector – Paul Brown, Andy Cox, Simon Eastwood, Lindsey Flynn, Chris Handy, Ninder Johal, Tom Westley</p> <p>Education Sector – Prof Geoff Layer</p> <p>Councillor attendance – Cllr Keiran Casey – Dudley MBC – Cllr Bill Gavan – Sandwell MBC Cllr Adrian Andrew – Walsall MBC – Cllr John Reynolds – City of Wolverhampton</p> <p>Chief Exec – Sarah Norman</p> <p>Apols – Stewart Towe, Jatinder Sharma, Deborah Williams; Cllrs. Mike Bird, Steve Eling and Pete Lowe and Cllr Brian Edwards – Leader of South Staffordshire District Council.</p>
158/18	Appointment of Interim Deputy Chair	<p>Agreed</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) that Chris Handy be appointed Interim Deputy Chair of the Black Country LEP Board; and 2) that the LEP Board undertake to appoint a permanent Deputy Chair role for the Board.
159/18	Declarations of Interests, etc.	<p>Agreed that the following Declarations be noted: -</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Lindsey Flynn – referenced Minute

		<p>165/18 – European Structural Investment Fund and declared her non-pecuniary interest in the item in that her company had received funding from the Building Better Opportunities fund. It was noted that the report was for information on future funding and thus no decision was required thereon.</p> <p>2) Tom Westley – referenced his on-going interests in the Elite Centre for Manufacturing Skills and Dudley College. It was noted that there no decisions required thereon.</p> <p>3) Chris Handy – referenced Minute No. 171 – Funding Applications Sub-Board minutes 1st October 2018. With reference to the update on Woods Lane he advised that Accord Group may be undertaking work on the site in the future. He advised that Board in the interests of transparency.</p>
160/18	Minutes of the LEP Board held on 17th September 2018	Agreed that the minutes of the meeting held on 17 th September 2018 be received and confirmed as a correct record.
161/18	Policy Update	<p>The meeting received update on the following: -</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. LEP Review Update ii. Garden City Submission iii. Economic Intelligence Unit – Statistics relating to: - <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UK Business Counts Annual Release; • UK Business Register and Employment (BRES) Survey: 27th September Release; • 2016 Household Projections – Black Country • Employer Skills Survey 2017.

		Agreed that the LEP Board Note the respective Policy updates.
162/18	Strategic Company Barometer	Agreed That the LEP Board: - <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Note the publication of the Black Country Strategic Barometers report 2018; and 2) Agree to the production of relevant PR/marketing material to share the strategic companies with wider stakeholders.
163/18	WMCA Update – including WMCA LIS	Agreed that the LEP Board: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Note the Black Country LEP’s ongoing role in developing the WMCA Industrial Strategy within the consultation period. 2) Support and add to our initial thoughts on the WM LIS consultation and what it means for the Black Country; 3) Agree the process for consultation to the WM LIS and 4) Receive the link to the Smartsheets developed by the Economic Intelligence Unit.
164/18	Black Country Local Industrial Strategy	Agreed that the LEP Board: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Note the progress of the Black Country LIS production; 2) Provide comments on the first draft including identification of any gaps and comment on the existing pipeline; and 3) Agree to the continued development of this document in line with emerging government timescales, including supporting a consultation period.
165/18	European Structural Investment Fund (ESIF) Update	Agreed <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) that the Board is asked to note the

		<p>report; and</p> <p>2) note the information in the letter received.</p>
166/18	<p>Local Programme Dashboards</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In Flight Current Financial Year • Future Years • Pipeline • Land and Property Investment Fund • Growing Priority Sectors • Enterprise Zones 	<p>Agreed that the LEP Board note the respective updates on the Dashboards.</p>
167/18	<p>Local Growth Fund – Growing Priority Sectors - Rubber and plastics Ltd</p>	<p>Agreed that the LEP Board approves the UK Rubber & Plastics Ltd project, part of Growing Priority Sectors, from within the Growth Deal programme. Grant funding is to be awarded to the value of £50,000 with delivery to commence in the 2018/19 financial year.</p>
168/18	<p>Local Growth Fund – Growing Priority Sectors - Valent Applications Ltd</p>	<p>Agreed that the LEP Board approves the Valent Applications Ltd project, part of Growing Priority Sectors, from within the Growth Deal programme. Grant funding is to be awarded to the value of £83,264 with delivery to commence in the 2018/19 financial year.</p>
169/18	<p>Local Growth Fund – Growing Priority Sectors - RP Technology</p>	<p>Agreed</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) that the LEP Board approves the Change Request for the RP Technologies Ltd project, part of Growing Priority Sectors, from within the Growth Deal programme; and 2) that the Board note that additional Grant funding is to be awarded to the value of £1028.72.
170/18	<p>Assurance Framework</p>	<p>The LEP Board were advised that within section 1 of the framework, under BCLEP</p>

		<p>governance and decision-making, it was stated that authority for change control has been delegated to the PMO manager.</p> <p><i>“Deploy a Change Control process with clearly stated range of Project Tolerances, at 10% maximum of the total value of in year grant, applied to in-flight projects, approved by BCLEP Board. “</i></p> <p>Given the level of responsibility and potential conflict of interest, it had been suggested that the authority should be given to the Chair of the Funding Sub Group.</p> <p>Agreed That the LEP Board:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Approves the proposed change to Delegated Authority to Deploy a Change Control as detailed above, to the Chair of the Funding Applications Sub-Board; and 2) That this be captured in the Black Country LEP Assurance Framework.
171/18	Funding Sub-Group – 1 st October 2018	Agreed that the LEP confirm the minutes
172/18	Employment & Skills (People) Theme Advisory Board – 11 th July 2018	Agreed that the LEP Board note the contents of the minutes of the Employment & Skills (People) Theme Advisory Board held on 11 th July 2018.
173/18	PR and Comms Report	<p>Agreed</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) That the LEP Board note the contents of the report; and 2) That the LEP Board note the two Freedom of Information request received and actioned in respect of: - <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i) IT costs; MIPIM costs and LEP contribution; status of former Chief Executive of Dudley Zoo in relation to the

		<p>LEP Board; and grants to Dudley Zoo.</p> <p>ii) Enterprise Zones</p> <p>3) That the LEP Board note the Daly Mail questions in relation to a potential article.</p>
174/18	Date of Next Meetings	Agreed that the LEP Board note that the next meetings would be held on 19 th November – NMC, West Bromwich at 3.00pm and 17 th December 2018, at noon.
175/18	Exclusion of the Press and Public: -	Agreed that the public and press be excluded from the rest of the meeting to avoid the possible disclosure of exempt information under Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972 for the reasons stated on the agenda’.
176/18	Private minutes of the LEP Board – 17 th September 2018	Agreed – that the private minutes of the meeting held on 17 th September 2018 be received and confirmed as a correct record.
177/18	LPIF Dashboard Private version	Agreed that the minutes of the meeting held on 17 th September 2018 be received and confirmed as a correct record.
178/18	Policy Update – LEP Review Update	Agreed that the LEP Board: - <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1) note the Geography response submitted on 28th September 2018; 2) note the emerging response to the LEP Review Stage 2 Implementation and the comments thereon of the Board; and 3) confirm acceptance of Walsall MBC as the single accountable bodies for all funds secured by the LEP.

The meeting closed at 16.40 hours