

BLACK COUNTRY LOCAL ENTERPRISE PARTNERSHIP
MEETING OF THE PARTNERSHIP BOARD

Monday, 22nd February 2021 at 3.20pm

DECISION NOTICE

Min No	Item	Decision
	Apologies and welcome	<p>Tom Westley – Chair; Cllr Adrian Andrew – Walsall MBC; Cllr Ian Brookfield – City of Wolverhampton; Paul Brown – EY; Kevin Davis - The Vine Trust; Martin Dudley – Thomas Dudley Ltd; Rachel Eade MBE - Red; Simon Eastwood – Eastwood Consults; Maxine Espley – Accord Group; Lindsey Flynn – Well Associates; Chris Handy – Accord Group; Cllr. Patrick Harley – Dudley MBC; Ninder Johal – Nachural Communications; Prof Nazira Karodia – University of Wolverhampton; Prof Geoff Layer - University of Wolverhampton; Cllr Danny Millard – Sandwell MBC; Jat Sharma – Walsall College; and Amanda Tomlinson – Black Country Housing Group.</p> <p>Apologies Cllrs Mike Bird, Maria Crompton and Cherry Elliott.</p>
14/21	<p>Declarations of Interests (relating to this meeting and notification of any changes that require the Declaration of Interest form to be revised.)</p> <p>Gift Register - to notify the Company Secretary of any gifts or hospitality with an estimated value of at least £50 which you receive in your role as a member of the LEP.</p>	<p>21/21 Get Building Fund - National Brownfield Institute</p> <p>Prof Nazira Karodia, Prof Geoff Layer and Ninder Johal d None.</p>
15/21	Minutes of the LEP Board held on 18 th January 2021	<p>Chair</p> <p>Recommendation For confirmation and approval.</p>

16/21	<p>Appointments to Outside Bodies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • City of Wolverhampton College 	<p>Agreed that the LEP Board confirm and approve the appointments of Lindsey Flynn and Amanda Tomlinson to the City of Wolverhampton College Board of Governors.</p>
17/21	<p>Policy Update</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) LEP Away Day b) Levelling Up Funds – Letters c) Economic Intelligence Unit <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Economic Dashboard • ESFA 2019/20 (Final) <p>Apprenticeship Starts</p>	<p>Agreed</p> <p>That the LEP Board: -</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Note the Outcomes of the Away Day detailed in Appendix 1 to the report. 2) Note the subsequent actions identified through the Employment and Skills Theme Advisory Board and the Competitiveness Theme Advisory Board. 3) Note the contents and response to the Levelling Up Funds letters. 4) Receive and note the updates on the following Economic Intelligence Unit <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Economic Dashboard b) ESFA 2019/20 (Final) Apprenticeship Starts
18/21	<p>Local Industrial Strategy Update: Sector Action Plans</p>	<p>Agreed that the Board: -</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Note the progress in advancing the Local Industrial Strategy sector action plans and their integration within regional policy mechanisms. 2) Note the status of Black Country-led sector plans and comment on the outlined priorities where appropriate and possible.
19/21	<p>Intelligence Update: Brexit and Covid Risk Analysis</p>	<p>Agreed that the Board: -</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Note the intelligence provided on changes to UK-EU trade and regulations and continued lockdown restrictions. 2) Note the Black Country LEPs role in the gathering of EU Exit and Covid intelligence and processes for directing this into the correct forums to influence policy change where required. 3) Provide any insight on challenges not identified in the intelligence provided, and any recommended actions for mitigating live issues.

20/21	Next Steps on Energy in the Black Country	<p>Agreed</p> <p>1) That the Board note</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) continued progress by the Energy Steering Group on this agenda in 2020/21, including securing recognition and an initial £2M of funding for the Black Country within the government's major industrial decarbonisation programme of support for UK industrial heartlands; b) that 2021-2 will be a critical year nationally for determining energy cost allocations and policies which could fundamentally affect economic opportunities in the Black Country; c) that the Black Country continues to lead and support West Midlands regional activity in energy via the Energy Capital Partnership and this complements LEP-specific work unique to the Black Country <p>2) That the Board approve continued funding for the work of the Black Country Energy Steering Group, that is £43,000 per year.</p>
21/21	Get Building Fund - National Brownfield Institute	<p>Agreed that the LEP Board approves the Accountable Body for the Getting Building Fund (Walsall Council) to proceed to amending the Grant Agreement with the University of Wolverhampton, to deliver the Getting Building Fund (GBF) funded elements of the National Brownfield Institute Phase 2 - Construction and Delivery Project with delivery to commence in the 2020/21 financial year.</p>
22/21	Draft Employment & Skills Theme Advisory Board – 2nd February 2021	<p>Agreed that the LEP Board receive and note the contents of the draft minutes of the meeting of the Employment & Skills Theme Advisory Board held on 2nd February 2021.</p>
23/21	PR and Communications Report (Information)	<p>Agreed that the LEP Board receive and note the PR and Communications report updates for December 2020 and January 2021.</p>

24/21	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’.
25/21	Minutes of the Funding Sub-Group held on 6th January and 4th February 2021	Agreed that the minutes of the Funding Sub-Group meetings held on 6 th January and 4 th February 2021, respectively, be confirmed and approved to include all recommendations contained therein.
26/21	Private Policy Update – Business Support Review West Midlands	Agreed <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) that the comments of the BC LEP Board on the principles that underpin the Review be noted; and 2) Note the opportunity via the review to continue to articulate the importance of the customer journey from a business user perspective
27/21	Risk Report	Agreed that the LEP Board note the contents of the Risk register.
28/21	Local Programmes – Dashboards <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Growth deal - In Flight Current Financial Year • Growth Deal - Future Years • Black Country Pipeline (PowerBi) • Land and Property Investment Fund • Growing Places Fund • Black Country Enterprise Zones 	Agreed that Members note and comment on the Dashboards.
29/21	Date of Next Meeting 22 March 2021 (The meeting will be followed by a Directors Meeting)	Agreed that the LEP Board note the date of the next meeting.