

**Monday 20<sup>th</sup> April 2020 at 3.00pm**  
**Virtual Meeting – Microsoft Teams**

**PUBLIC DECISION NOTICE**

Minute No.	Item	
	<p><b>Present</b></p> <p><b>Apologies</b></p>	<p>Tom Westley (Chair), Cllr. Adrian Andrew, Cllr. Ian Brookfield, Paul Brown, Kevin Davis, Cllr. Yvonne Davies, Rachel Eade, Simon Eastwood, Lindsey Flynn, Chris Handy, Ninder Johal, Prof Nazira Karodia, Prof Geoff Layer, Jatinder Sharma and Amanda Tomlinson.</p> <p>Cllrs. Mike Bird and Patrick Harley and Cherry Elliott.</p>
44/20	<b>Exclusion of the Press and Public: -</b>	<p><b>Exclusion of the Press and Public: -</b>                      ‘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’.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Agenda</b>                      (Not Open to Public and Press)  <b>Exempt Information</b></p> <p>Paragraph 3                      Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information).</p>
45/20	<b>Declarations of Interests, etc.</b>	<p><b>Minute 52/20 - Steps to tackle energy and fuel poverty in the Black Country</b>                      Tom Westley declared his non-pecuniary interest as the LEP Board appointee on the Energy Capital Board and retained his right to speak or vote on the matter should he decide to do so.  <b>Dudley College</b></p> <p>Tom Westley also declared his interest as a Governor of Dudley College, if any matter was</p>



	<p>raised. There were no items on Dudley College on the Agenda.</p> <p><b>Minute 52/20 - Steps to tackle energy and fuel poverty in the Black Country and Minute No. 60/20 Local Growth Deal – WM5G – Black Country LEP Development Contribution</b></p> <p>Profs. Geoff Layer and Nazira Karodia declared their respective pecuniary interests as the Vice Chancellor and Deputy Vice-Chancellor of the University of Wolverhampton, as the University was involved in the work of the Energy Capital Board and in the WM5G project.</p> <p><b>Minute 56/20 Land and Property Investment Fund – Music Institute Change Request</b></p> <p>Simon Eastwood declared a non-pecuniary interest the Music Institute Change Request as he was providing some non-related consultancy advice to Richardsons, who owned the residential site. He reserved his right to speak or vote on the matter should he decide to do so.</p> <p><b>Minute No. 60/20 Local Growth Deal – WM5G – Black Country LEP Development Contribution</b></p> <p>Ninder Johal declared his non-pecuniary interest as the LEP Board appointee on the WM5G Board and retained his right to speak or vote on the matter should he decide to do so.</p> <p><b>Very Light Rail Project</b></p> <p>Rachel Eade declared a non-pecuniary interest insofar as any mention of the Very Light Rail project in Dudley insofar as Birmingham University were involved in the project.</p> <p>There were no declarations of any gifts or hospitality received in by members their role</p>
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		as a LEP Board Member since the last meeting of the LEP Board.
46/20	<p>Conducting Business Remotely</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Timings</li> <li>• Requirement for notification to speak</li> <li>• Voting</li> <li>• Exclusion of Press and Public</li> </ul>	<p><b>Agreed</b> that the Board: -</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Note that LEP Board meetings could be held remotely until, initially 7<sup>th</sup> May 2021;</li> <li>2) Note that the Secretariat would update the Assurance Framework to incorporate the new statutory provisions; and</li> <li>3) Note that for the foreseeable future the LEP Board and associated meetings to include the Funding Sub-Group, Theme Advisory Boards, Enterprise Zone Implementation Group etc would be held remotely, subject to review in line with Government guidance.</li> </ol>
47/20	Private Minutes of the LEP Board held on 24 <sup>th</sup> February 2020	<b>Agreed</b> that the private minutes of the LEP Board held on 24 <sup>th</sup> February be received and confirmed as a correct record.
48/20	Private Minutes of Funding Sub-Group held on 4 <sup>th</sup> March and 1 <sup>st</sup> April 2020.	<b>Agreed</b> that the private minutes of the Funding Sub-Group meetings held on 4 <sup>th</sup> March and 1 <sup>st</sup> April 2020, be received and confirmed as a correct record.
49/20	BC LEP Change Control and Delegated Authority	<b>Agreed</b> That the LEP Board Approves the revised Black Country LEP Assurance Framework Change Control and Delegated Authority governance, as detailed in the attachment of the report (Black Country LEP Assurance Framework Appendix 25 – attached to the decision notice)
50/20	<p>Covid19 – BC LEP Activity</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) EIU Intelligence Update</li> <li>Economic Impact- WM Redi weekly update</li> <li>Updates on Sectors’ Economic Resilience</li> <li>b) Growth Hub – Coronavirus activity</li> </ol>	<p><b>Agreed</b> that the LEP Board receive and steer next steps whilst also noting the following updates provided via this report: -</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Economic Intelligence Unit</li> <li>b) Growth Hub</li> <li>c) Black Country Careers and Enterprise Activity (CEC)</li> </ol>



	<p>c) Black Country Careers and Enterprise Activity (CEC)</p> <p>d) Response, Resilience, Recovery: emerging thinking on a West Midlands Economic Recovery Framework</p> <p>e) West Midlands Rapid Recruitment</p> <p>f) European Structural Investment Fund</p> <p>g) LEP Network</p>	<p>d) Response, Resilience, Recovery: emerging thinking on a West Midlands Economic Recovery Framework</p> <p>e) West Midlands Rapid Recruitment</p> <p>f) European Structural Investment Fund</p> <p>g) LEP Network</p>
51/20	LEP Core and Strategic Funding Budget Report 2020/21	<p><b>Agreed</b> that the LEP Board: -</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Approve the LEP Core and Strategic funding budget and the LEP Review and LIS Development funding budget for the financial year of 2020/21;</li> <li>2) To ratify the action taken by the LEP board Chair and the Walsall MBC S151 officer approval of the LEP funding application for 2020/21.</li> <li>3) Approve the funding of £25,000 to Innovation West Midlands and ratify that BCC Ltd continues to act as accountable body, and approves the extension of the two consultancy contracts detailed in the private report, subject to the approval of the Guarantee Members.</li> </ol>
52/20	Steps to tackle energy and fuel poverty in the Black Country	<p><b>Agreed</b> that the LEP Board: -</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) That the Board note that the Black Country Energy Steering Group had been successful in securing some external funding and strengthening the leading role of the Black Country in setting the pace for a distinctive regional and national energy policy during 2019-20;</li> <li>2) That the Board note the strategic opportunities created for the Black Country by the new “Repowering the Black Country” project, and endorse</li> </ol>

		<p>the proposal to work closely with regeneration leads and ensure alignment with the Black Country Plan in order to get the most from this opportunity;</p> <p>3) That the Board support the recommendations to establish a £40M regional energy infrastructure investment fund set out in the attached Enzen consultancy report, and:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i) Ask the executive to work with the other WM LEPs and Energy Capital to secure such funds from government.</li> <li>ii) Support an immediate request through Energy Capital to BEIS to fund establishment of the recommended 'shadow team' as part of their local energy support activities. This team should be based in the Black Country and support energy infrastructure financing activities across the wider region.</li> <li>iii) Note that both of these requests should be seen as part of the regional 'recovery' effort following the current Covid19 crisis.</li> </ul>
53/20	Risk Register – Covid19 Programme Risk update	<p><b>Agreed</b> that the LEP Board:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Notes the updates provided by the Programme Management Office (PMO), with regards to the current risks associated with the BC LEP funded programmes;</li> <li>2) Notes that the project related updates are provided by the applicants and their nominated Project Managers, supported by the PMO and the Single Accountable Body.</li> </ul>

54/20	<p>Local Programmes – Dashboards</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Growth Deal In Flight Current Financial Year</li> <li>• Growth Deal Future Years</li> <li>• Black Country Pipeline</li> <li>• Land and Property Investment Fund</li> <li>• Growing Places</li> <li>• Enterprise Zones</li> </ul>	<p><b>Agreed</b> that the LEP Board note the contents of the dashboards.</p>
55/20	<p>Land and Property Investment Fund - Phoenix 10 Change Request</p>	<p><b>Agreed that</b> the LEP Board: -</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Approved the Accountable Body for the Black Country Land and Property Investment Fund (Walsall Council) to proceed to amend the existing Internal Agreement with Walsall Council to deliver the Land and Property Investment Fund (LPIF) funded elements of the Phoenix 10 project.</li> <li>2) Approved a reduction in LPIF funds to the value detailed in the private report, already awarded to the Phoenix 10 project, to be reallocated to the Iron Park, Moxley scheme.</li> <li>3) Approved that future business rates generated from Phoenix 10 can be utilised by Walsall Council to recover their borrowing costs associated with funding in line with the financial model; and</li> <li>4) Noted the comments in regard to the future funding through the WMCA.</li> </ol>
56/20	<p>Land and Property Investment Fund – Music Institute Change Request</p>	<p><b>Agreed</b> that the LEP Board: -</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Approved the reduction of the Student Accommodation forecast units as detailed in the private report; and</li> <li>2) Notes that the change would reduce the Housing Output forecast of the LPIF tranche 1 funding.</li> </ol>
57/20	<p>Land and Property Investment Fund – Sandwell Housing</p>	<p><b>Agreed</b> that the LEP Board: -</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Approved the Accountable Body for the Black Country Land and Property</li> </ol>

		<p>Investment Fund (Walsall Council) to proceed to a Grant Agreement with Sandwell Council to deliver the Land and Property Investment Fund (LPIF) funded elements of the Sandwell Housing Gap Funding - Phase 1 Project, with delivery to commence in the 2020/21 financial year.</p> <p>2) Confirmed the funding sum requested detailed in the private report.</p>
58/20	Local Growth Deal – Fab Kit Fab Lab Change Request (Sandwell College)	<p><b>Agreed</b> that the LEP Board</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Approved the Accountable Body for the Growth Deal (Walsall Council) to proceed to amend the Grant Agreement with Sandwell College to deliver the Local Growth Fund (LGF), funded elements of the Fab Kit Fab Lab Project; and</li> <li>2) Notes that the change request related to a revision of Outputs.</li> </ol>
59/20	Local Growth Deal – City Learning Quarter Site Investigation	<p><b>Agreed</b> that the LEP Board: -</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Approved the Accountable Body for Growth Deal (Walsall Council) to proceed to amending the Grant Agreement with Wolverhampton City Council to deliver the Local Growth Fund, (LGF) funded elements of the City Learning Quarter Site Investigation project with delivery to commence in the 2020/21 financial year; and</li> <li>2) Noted that the additional funding request related to the City of Wolverhampton Technical Centre (Bilston Campus) and was to be underwritten by Wolverhampton City Council. Any Site Investigation funding would be considered revenue and was subject to standard clawback conditions, until such time as: an asset/main scheme was delivered on site, which was required to be evidenced by either a built asset, or by</li> </ol>

		a fully funded approved Business Case in support of the main scheme.
60/20	Local Growth Deal – WM5G – Black Country LEP Development Contribution	<b>Agreed</b> that the LEP Board: - <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Approved the Accountable Body for the Black Country Growing Places Fund (Walsall Council) to proceed to a Grant Agreement with WM5G Ltd to deliver the Growing Places Fund (GPF) funded elements of the WM5G Project with delivery to commence in the 2020/21 financial year, to the total sum detailed in the private report; and</li> <li>2) Noted that the contribution was to be funded from the Broadband Gainshare element of the Growing Places Fund Programme.</li> </ol>
61/20	Enterprise Zones – Boxpool – Project Recommendation	<b>Agreed</b> that the LEP Board: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Approved the Accountable Body for the Enterprise Zone (Walsall Council) to proceed to a Grant Agreement with applicant to deliver the Black Country Enterprise Zone (BC EZ) funded elements of the Boxpool project – with delivery to commence in the 2020/21 financial year.</li> <li>2) Approved that future business rates generated from Boxpool could be utilised by Walsall Council to recover their borrowing costs associated with funding in line with the financial model.</li> </ol>
62/20	Active Black Country Partnership Board Minutes – 27 <sup>th</sup> January 2020	<b>Agreed</b> that the LEP Board receive and note the Minutes of the Active Black Country Partnership held on 27 <sup>th</sup> January 2020.
63/20	PR and Communications Dashboard	<b>Agreed</b> that the LEP Board receive and note the PR and Communications Dashboard.
64/20	Date of Next meeting	<b>Agreed</b> that the LEP Board note the next meeting would be held on 18 <sup>th</sup> May 2020 at 3.00pm via Microsoft Teams.





The meeting closed at 4.50pm.