

LEP - Business Support Management Board

Minutes of the Meeting held on Wednesday, 20th November, 2019 at 3.00 pm at the Exchange Room 3 - The Exchange - County Hall, Preston

Present

Michael Blackburn OBE

Miranda Barker
Paul Foster
Neil McMillan

Sue Smith
Stuart Thompson
Alan Welsh

In Attendance

Andy Walker, Head of Service Business Growth, Lancashire County Council
Andy Milroy, Senior Democratic Services Officer, Lancashire County Council

1. Welcome and Apologies for Absence

The Chairman, Mike Blackburn OBE, welcomed all to the meeting. There were no apologies for absence.

2. Declaration of Interests

None

3. Minutes of the meeting held on 03 October 2019

Resolved: The minutes of the Business Support Management Board meeting held on 3rd October 2019 were approved as an accurate record and signed by the Chairman.

4. Matters Arising

None

5. Wider LEP Update

Andy Milroy, Senior Democratic Services Officer, Lancashire County Council, provided a brief overview of recent LEP activity including Growth Deal approvals and progress on the recruitment of a new LEP Chief Executive Officer.

6. Any Other Business

None

7. Date of Next Meeting

It was noted that the next Business Support Management Board meeting was scheduled to be held on Tuesday 17th December 2019 at 10:30am in Committee Room 'B' - The Diamond Jubilee Room, County Hall, Preston.

8. Exclusion of the Press and Public

Resolved: That the press and public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following items of business on the grounds that there would be a likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in the appropriate paragraph of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, as indicated against the heading of each item. It is considered that in all the circumstances the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.

9. Business Support Related Propositions within Lancashire's Local Industrial Strategy

Andy Walker, Head of Service Business Growth, Lancashire County Council presented a private and confidential report (circulated) which provided an update on Business Support related proposals within Lancashire's Local Industrial Strategy.

The presentation highlighted four areas of progress with the evidence base, local priorities, proposition development and final narrative.

Headline analysis of each key area was provided including Lancashire's productive gap, major technology market drivers, Lancashire's strengths in aerospace, automotive, energy and marine sectors. Analysis was also provided on business density and start up survival rates and opportunities and challenges for growth in Lancashire.

It was noted that the deadline for submission of the Local Industrial Strategy for Lancashire is 31st March 2020 and that the final narrative will flow from the information presented to the Business Support Management Board.

The Business Support Management Board provided feedback on the progress made to date and additional information to assist with refining the final Strategy.

In addition, the timeline for developing and finalising the Local Industrial Strategy for Lancashire were noted, including a workshop being held week commencing

2nd December 2019, with it returning to the Business Support Management Board on 17th December 2019 and the LEP Board on 18th December 2019.

Resolved: The Business Support Management Board provided comments and feedback on the development of the Strategy to date and endorsed the final Business Start-Up and Growth Proposition for submission to the LEP Board.