

LEP - Lancashire Innovation Board

Minutes of the Meeting held on Monday, 5th December, 2022 via MS Teams, starting at 11.00am.

Present:

Graham Baldwin - Chair

Jane Dalton	Mike Kenny
Rick Holland	Judson Smythe
Mike Kenny	Dion Williams
Dion Williams	

In Attendance

Maya Ellis, Innovation and Digital Lead, Business and Innovation, Economic Development, Lancashire County Council.

Mike Neville, Senior Democratic Services Officer, Lancashire County Council.

Hannah Lysons, Democratic Services Officer, Lancashire County Council.

1. Welcome and apologies

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting. Apologies were received from Ms M Conlon.

2. Declaration of Interests

No declarations of interest were made at this point in the meeting in respect of items on the agenda.

3. Minutes of the Last Meeting

Mr Neville informed the Board that following the last meeting Ms L Roche had formally resigned from the Board. It was noted that a nomination to fill the resulting vacancy for a Board member representing energy and the environment was set out in the report at item 4 on the agenda.

Resolved: That the Minutes of the meeting held on 5th September 2022 are confirmed as an accurate record and signed by the Chair in due course.

4. Proposed appointment of four new members to the Innovation Board

A report was presented on nominees to fill four vacancies on the Board which had arisen due to the resignation of members. The Board considered the background information regarding each nominee as set out in the report and agreed that all four should be recommended to the LEP Board for formal

approval. It was also noted that discussions were ongoing to fill a further vacancy for a Board member representing Start Up, Micro and SMEs and that a recommendation would be brought to the Board in due course. If approved the additional Board member would bring the membership of the Board up to 15, the maximum allowed by the Terms of Reference.

Resolved: That the following nominees to fill vacancies on the Innovation Board be recommended to the LEP Board on 13th December 2022 for approval.

1. Mr R McGrath – Thematic Professional and Services representative (to replace Ms G Dykes)
2. Mr R O'Neill – Thematic Energy and Environment representative (to replace Ms L Roche)
3. Ms R Jenkins – Research and Science representative (to replace Ms N Jones)
4. Mr A Attard DL – Independent representative (to fill a vacant position on Board)

5. Lancashire Innovation Plan - Final sign off of Steer report

A report was presented on the final version of the refreshed Lancashire Innovation Plan which incorporated feedback from Board members and wider stakeholders and set out a clear initial structure and first steps towards a practical delivery programme for the next 5 financial years with some flexibility to define exactly how and by whom actions are delivered.

The Board noted that Officers would work alongside the Board, to develop a final operational plan over the next 4 months (including funding implications) which would be considered as part of the budget process for the County Council, LEP Board and other stakeholders to be ready to start delivery from the beginning of the 2023/24 financial year.

Ms Ellis, the Innovation and Digital Lead for Business and Innovation, reported that in the future the Board would monitor progress against the operational plan with individual Board members tasking the lead on specific elements off the Plan. The need for regular communications regarding implementation of the Plan was discussed and Ms Ellis confirmed that a marketing strategy would be developed together with a document summarising the contents of the Innovation Plan which could be made available to stakeholders and the public.

Resolved: That the refreshed Lancashire Innovation Plan 2023-2028, as set out at Appendix 'A' to the report presented, is approved as the driving document for the Innovation Board's work for the next 5 years.

6. Programme of Meetings

Resolved: That the following programme of meetings is approved, with all meetings to be held in Committee Room 'C' - The Duke of Lancaster Room at County Hall, Preston, starting at 10.30am.

Monday 5th June 2023

Monday 4th September 2023

Monday 6th November 2023

Monday 5th February 2024

7. Date of Next Meeting

It was noted that the next scheduled meeting would be held at 10.30am on 6th February 2023 in Committee Room 'C' – The Duke of Lancaster Room at County Hall, Preston.

8. Any Other Business

The Chair asked if there were any other items of business to be discussed.

Mis Ellis reported that Lancashire had submitted a bid to the Innovate UK Launchpad programme which had an initial £7.5 million investment over three years to cover the first Launchpad pilot period and help strengthen place-based innovation clusters in parts of the UK. Mr Holland confirmed that due to the number of bids received an announcement on successful bids would be made early in the New Year.

The Board also discussed the impact of the withdrawal of European Regional Development Funding on higher education.