

LEP - Growth Deal Management Board

Wednesday, 9th March, 2016 in Cabinet Room 'C' - The Duke of Lancaster Room, County Hall, Preston, at 12.30 pm

Agenda

Part I (Items Publicly Available)

- 1. Welcome and Apologies for Absence**
- 2. Declarations of Interest**
- 3. Minutes of the meeting held on the 18th January 2016 (Pages 1 - 10)**
- 4. Matters Arising**

Part II (Private and Confidential)

- 5. Business Cases due for LEP Approval**
 - Burnley Vision Park
 - Making Rooms – Lancashire First Fab Lab
 - Café Northcote
- 6. Presentation - Framework for Growth in Blackpool and the Fylde.**

Part I (Items Publicly Available)

- 7. Communications (Pages 11 - 50)**
- 8. Monitoring and Evaluation Sub Group - Update. (Pages 51 - 52)**
- 9. Social Value Update. (Pages 53 - 54)**

Part II (Private and Confidential)

- 10. Growth Deal Finance Summary. (Pages 55 - 62)**
- 11. Report of relevant issues from the LEP (Pages 63 - 68)**

12. Local Growth Fund Agreements. (Pages 69 - 72)

13. Growth Deal Implementation (Pages 73 - 102)

Part I (items Publicly Available)

14. Building Research Establishment Environmental Assessment Methodology (BREEAM). (Pages 103 - 106)

15. Reporting to Lancashire Enterprise Partnership Board

- Identification and agreement of any recommendations for consideration/approval by the LEP Board.
- Identification and agreement of issues for inclusion in the feedback report for the LEP Board.

16. Any Other Business

17. Date of Next Meeting

The next scheduled meeting of the Board will be held at 1.30pm on Wednesday 13th April 2016 in Cabinet Room D – The Henry Bolingbroke Room, County Hall, Preston.

LEP - Growth Deal Management Board

Minutes of the Meeting held on Monday, 18th January, 2016 at 1.30 pm at the Cabinet Room 'D' - The Henry Bolingbroke Room, County Hall, Preston.

Present:

Mr G Cowley (Chair)

Mr B Bailey

Mr A Cavill

Ms Lawty-Jones

Mrs S Procter

Mr G Smith

Professor R Walsh

Ms J Whittaker

Observers

Mr M Allen – Department for Business, Innovation and Skills.

In Attendance

Mrs A Moore, Programme Manager, Lancashire County Council.

Miss J Ainsworth, Subject Matter Expert / Specialist Advisor Finance, Lancashire County Council.

Ms K Molloy, Head of Service LEP Coordination, Lancashire County Council.

Mr M Neville, Company Services Team, Lancashire County Council.

Mr R Wallace and Mr P Thomas – UCLan.

Ms E Little - J L Advisory Consultants.

1. Welcome and Apologies for Absence

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and noted that apologies had been received from Mr R Hothersall, Head of Service Programme Office, LCC, Ms J Johnson, Subject Matter Expert/Specialist Advisor Legal, LCC and Mr E Sutton, Director of Development and Corporate Services LCC.

It was also noted that Mr B Bailey would be attending the meeting but had been delayed.

2. Declarations of Interest

Professor Walsh, Mr G Smith and Ms J Whittaker all declared interests in relation to item 7 on the agenda as they represented organisations which were currently involved in making applications for Growth Deal Funding which would feature in the presentations.

The Chair informed the meeting that he would take item 7 as the next item of

business so that those individuals who were attending to give presentations could then leave the meeting.

Mr Bailey joined the meeting at this point.

3. Business Cases due for LEP Approval - Presentations.

As the presentations contained exempt information as defined in the Freedom of Information Act 2000 and it was considered that in the circumstances the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighed the public interest in disclosing the information the meeting moved into Part II at this point.

Presentation 1 - GF02–29 The Engineering and Innovation Centre – UCLan.

Mr Wallace gave a brief presentation in relation to the development of a state of the art Engineering and Innovation Centre which was intended to be open in 2018 and formed part of the University's masterplan for the Preston Campus.

In considering the presentation the Committee acknowledged the need to ensure that the needs of businesses were aligned to the Centres activity and it was noted that that a Steering Group which included business representatives would help to provide opportunities for placements within their supply chains and assist with building the curriculum. Mr Thomas added that the University had an Engagement Officer who would visit schools and other institutions in order to encourage young people into a career in engineering.

In response to a query Mr Wallace confirmed that whilst the University had a relationship with local partner colleges it also maintained links with other institutions across the region.

At the end of the Q&A session Professor Walsh, Mr Wallace and Mr Thomas all left the meeting while the Committee considered the proposal. After discussing the project the Chair invited them back into the room and informed them that the Committee made the following recommendations for consideration before the project was presented to the LEP Board for approval.

- a) The level of engagement between the University and industry was welcomed and it was suggested that this should be emphasised in any report presented to the LEP Board. It was also suggested that reference be made to the global challenges facing business and how the Centre would address these together with details of how the proposed Centre would work with any Small, Medium sized Enterprises (SMEs) and how that would assist the Committee to monitor and evaluate outcomes/delivery.
- b) Evidence needs to be provided of the relationship between the University and other FEIs particularly in relation to the collaboration with engineering courses provided by the Lancaster/Sheffield Universities together with examples of the proposed synergy between the Centre and other facilities.
- c) Details of the timescale regarding securing the necessary planning permissions for both the Centre and the associated highway alterations should be provided in order to assure the LEP Board that implementation of the scheme will not be delayed.

The Chair thanked Mr Wallace and Mr Taylor for their presentation before they left the meeting.

Presentation 2 – GF02-27 Redevelopment of Brierfield Mill.

Mr Smith and Ms Little gave a detailed presentation on the Redevelopment of Brierfield Mill project which would regenerate the site of a former mill and provide residential/employment/education and leisure facilities.

Mr Smith informed the meeting that whilst there would be a number of different developments across the site a group had been established to ensure that all the different elements would work together eg people receiving education/training at one facility could be offered work placements at another part of the site.

It was reported that funding for the scheme would be from a variety of sources, the majority of which had been secured though it was recognised that the phased development would not commence on site until all necessary funding had been secured.

At the end of the Q&A session Mr Smith and Ms Little left the meeting while the Committee considered the proposal. After discussing the project the Chair invited them back into the room and reported that the Committee had made the following recommendations for consideration before the project was presented to the LEP Board for approval.

- a) That more detail be provided for the LEP Board in relation to the funding of the project and the financial breakdown of individual aspects of the scheme.
- b) Greater emphasis be placed on the proposed outcomes of the project with any additional information to be circulated to the members of the Growth Deal Management Board for information ahead of the LEP Board.
- c) That the project should be set in the context of regeneration activity within the Hyndburn, Burnley, Pendle Growth Corridor project.

Ms Little left the meeting at this point.

Presentation 3 - GF02-30 Making rooms – Lancashires First Fab Lab

Mr Bailey informed the meeting that the project would establish a venue within Lancashire that would provide rooms and a variety of equipment for use by local business/individuals who would not otherwise be able to access such facilities to enable them to develop products/ideas.

It was noted that some funding for the project had already been secured and that once established the intention was for the project to be sustainable through income generation via a café on site and the rental of rooms/equipment.

At the end of the Q&A session Mr Bailey left the room while the Committee considered the proposal. After discussing the project the Chair invited him back into the room and reported that the Committee had made the following recommendations for consideration before the project was presented to the LEP

Board for approval.

- a) That more work be done to show how the proposed Fab Lab would coordinate and collaborate with other educational/training facilities across Lancashire in order to maximise the opportunities for use of the venue and equipment on offer.
- b) That the project sponsor explore the possibility of working with the University of Central Lancashire which is in the process of mapping the location and availability of equipment in the area for use by businesses/individuals.

Having considered all three presentations the meeting then returned to the Part I of the agenda (items publicly available).

4. Minutes of the meeting held on 8th December 2015

Resolved: That the Minutes of the meeting held on the 8th December 2016 are confirmed as an accurate record and signed by the Chair.

5. Matters Arising

Ms Molloy informed the meeting that the LEP Board had recently commissioned Marketing Lancashire Ltd to undertake a programme of marketing activity associated with the work of the Board and discussions were underway in order to determine what was required.

Ms Molloy confirmed that she would convene a meeting (to include SKV and LCC Communications) in order to inform the development of the communications update that will be tabled at the next meeting.

It was also reported that the GDMB Social Value Working Group had met and were in the process of developing a template for capturing and monitoring social value outcomes across growth deal projects. Mrs Moore confirmed that the template would initially be trialled with two projects and that the findings will be reported to the next Committee.

Resolved: That the above updates are noted.

6. Monitoring and Evaluation Sub Group Update

Mrs Moore reported the meeting that in December 2015 the LEP Board had approved the appointment of Warwick Economic & Development Ltd to deliver the Evaluation Framework contract for Lancashire's Growth Deal Evaluation Plan. It was noted that the contract would take effect on the 4th April 2016 for a period of 3 years with an option to extend for any period up to a further 12 months (3rd April 2020).

It was also noted that the next meeting of the Sub Group would be held in early February and not on the 29th January 2016 as stated in the report.

Resolved: That the report is noted.

7. Report on relevant issues from LEP Board - 15th December 2015

Ms Molloy updated the Committee on various decisions approved by the LEP Board in respect of Growth Deal Funding from the meeting on the 15th December 2015, including:

- An £8m contribution towards the Burnley, Pendle, Hyndburn Growth Corridor Improvements Scheme.
- That the UCLan Engineering and Innovation Centre and Brierfield Mill projects were to be presented to the LEP Board on the 2nd February 2016 for approval.
- By the 31st March 2016 100% of the LEPs £39.35m Growth Deal allocation for 2015/16 will have been transferred to capital projects, with any underspends arising from the programme being used to meet any increased call from existing schemes or emerging small scale pipeline projects.
- Approval for up to £1.8m of the £3.68m unallocated Growth Deal Skills Capital Funding to be used to meet any increased call from existing Growth Deal schemes and agreement in principle to the Skills and Employment Board using the remaining £1.88m unallocated Skills Capital funding to support the outcome of the forthcoming Area Based Review.

With regard to schemes seeking funding approval the Chair expressed his concern that three of the expected five schemes were not in a position to be considered due to slippage and suggested that the project sponsors be contacted with a view to establishing revised timescales. It was noted that reports on the Rawtenstall Redevelopment Zone and Burnley Vision Park schemes were due to be presented to the next meeting of the Committee.

Resolved: That the report is noted.

Part II (Private and Confidential).

8. Growth Deal Skills Capital - Round 2

(Not for publication – exempt information as defined in paragraph 41 (Information provided in confidence relating to contracts) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000. It is considered that in all the circumstances of the case the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information).

Dr Lawty-Jones presented her report on the above and informed the meeting that 10 Expressions of Interest (EOIs) had been received for Round 2 with a total funding request of £8.92m. It was noted that three of the projects submitted had also included a full business case.

The EOIs had been appraised by the Lancashire Skills Hub/LEP Officers and by the Skills Funding Agency before being presented to the Skills and Employment

Board on the 10th December 2015 which had made recommendations to the LEP Board on the 15th December.

8 projects had been approved to progress from EOI to full business case (addressing the points raised through the appraisal) with one approval being subject to a reduction in the intervention rate which was subsequently agreed with the applicant and reduced the total amount of funding to £8.73m. As the remaining 2 projects had provided insufficient detail in the EOI it was agreed that the applicants be asked for further information and clarification before proceeding to full business case with revised EOIs to be re-considered at the Skills and Employment Board on the 27th January 2016.

An overview of the projects, costs and the amount of grant requested was presented.

In considering the report the Committee noted that fewer EOIs had been received for Round 2 and it was suggested that this was due to a number of factors including: greater clarity regarding the criteria; projects being requested to spend by the end of March 2017 and be operational in time for the 2017/18 academic year; and the imminent Area Based Review (ABR) of the College infrastructure which may have deterred Colleges from committing to projects with significant financial spend.

Whilst the number of EOIs was lower than in the previous round it was recognised that the quality of bids received had improved and a number of new applicants had submitted EOIs in Round 2.

The Chair asked Dr Lawty-Jones to ensure that the LEP Board was made aware of how individual schemes would link together in order to achieve synergies and avoid duplication eg the Brierfield Mill project where training provided on one part of the site could be linked to employment opportunities on other parts.

Resolved:

1. That the outcome of the first stage of the Growth Deal Skills Capital Round 2 tender process and the projects advancing to full business case, as set out in the report presented, is noted.
2. That the LEP Board's approval to push forward unallocated funds to future years to support the outcomes of the ABR, whilst also using a proportion to meet any increased call from existing schemes or small-scale pipeline projects in the short-term is noted.

9. Growth Deal Finance Summary

(Not for publication – exempt information as defined in paragraph 41 (Information provided in confidence relating to contracts) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000. It is considered that in all the circumstances of the case the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information).

Miss Ainsworth reported that there had been some slippage reported on one

scheme due to the recent bad weather and subsequent flooding in certain areas where works were scheduled. This may push spend from 2015/16 into 2016/17 but will not delay the overall project completion timescales.

Details of the current Growth Fund position together with the risk rating and comments for all projects with a 2015/16 or 2016/17 start were presented. In considering the report the Committee noted there was some risk associated with schemes GF01-06 SAL and GF01-11 LHIP and this would be clarified once details regarding spend were received.

The potential underspend on scheme GF01-13- BFC LEHQ was discussed and a request from the project sponsor for LEP to fund the sunk costs of the initial site work (as minuted at a previous GDMB) it was noted that Miss Ainsworth was due to meet with officers to discuss the situation and determine how any underspend was to be used but that underspends on the current project should be utilised first.

Further clarification of DCLG's flexibility in use of Growth Deal monies to meet project needs and to include additional projects if required was given following feedback from DCLG.

Resolved:

1. That the Growth Fund Profile be accepted following adjustments from the last meeting.
2. That the spend to date and the spend to be made in 2015-16 are both noted.
3. That the 2015-16 in year spend be balanced to the funding as set out in the report presented.
4. That the allocations of the skills programme of £12.63m be noted and agreed.
5. That consideration is given to the profiling of funding for projects being as accurate as possible at initial stages of project development.
6. That a list of pipeline projects be identified to both utilise any underspends in Growth Deal 1 and be ready for Growth Deal 2 ask if announced following the Comprehensive Spending Review.

10. Project GF01-06 - M55 to St Annes Link Road

The Chair informed the meeting that following further discussions between officers and the applicant it was likely that agreement would be reached on a scheme which would deliver a number of housing units and the Link road. It was suggested that the decision by the LEP Board to approve the variation in the draw down on Growth Deal funding had been significant in moving things forward.

Resolved: That the update is noted and the Committee are kept informed on further developments in relation to Project GF01-06.

11. Local Growth Fund Agreements

(Not for publication – exempt information as defined in paragraph 41 (Information provided in confidence relating to contracts) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000. It is considered that in all the circumstances of the case the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information).

Mrs Moore updated the Committee on the position regarding the development of Local Growth Fund Agreements.

It was reported that draft memorandums of understanding for projects GF01-01: Hyndburn-Burnley-Pendle Growth Corridor and GFO1-22-CD: A6, Broughton By-Pass were with the project sponsors for consideration and it was anticipated that they would be signed off very shortly and ready for formal sign off by the Board. In order to avoid any delays in the projects being able to draw down growth fund monies the "decisions in writing" provision within the terms of reference will be utilised.

Resolved: That the updates regarding LGF Agreements, as set out in the report presented, are noted.

12. Growth Deal Implementation

(Not for publication – exempt information as defined in paragraph 41 (Information provided in confidence relating to contracts) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000. It is considered that in all the circumstances of the case the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information).

Mrs Moore presented a report to update the Committee on the implementation of the Growth Deal, including a proposed method of reporting to record and report progress in relation to metrics for Growth Deal projects which have a funding agreement/memorandum of understanding in place.

Resolved: That the contents of the Growth Deal Implementation document, as presented, are noted and the proposed Growth Deal Metrics Summary document approved for future use.

13. Reporting to Lancashire Enterprise Partnership Board

It was agreed that the comments of the Committee, together with details of the following projects, be referred to the LEP Board for consideration and approval.

GF02-29 - The Engineering and Innovation Centre – UCLan.
GF02-27 - Redevelopment of Brierfield Mill
GF02-30 - Making Rooms – Lancashire's First Fab Lab.

It was also agreed that the LEP Board be alerted to the fact that at a meeting relating to ESIF that had taken place on 18 January 2016 it had been confirmed

that only revenue spending would be approved. On that basis the pipeline of capital projects that had been developed may be appropriate to be considered as Growth Deal projects going forward.

14. Any Other Business

No items of business were raised under this item.

15. Date of Next Meeting

It was noted that the next scheduled meeting would be held at 12.30pm on the 9th March 2016 in Cabinet Room C – The Duke of Lancaster Room, County Hall, Preston.



LEP – Sub Committee

Growth Deal Management Board

Private and Confidential: No

9 March 2016

Quarterly Communications Activity Update – March 2016

(Appendices A and B refer)

Report Author: Andy Swain, Media Manager, LCC, 01772 53278,
andy.swain@lancashire.gov.uk

Executive Summary

This reports sets out the Quarterly Communications Activity Update – March 2016

Recommendation

The Board is asked to note the contents of the attached update.

Background and Advice

The Growth Deal Management Board had previously asked that individual projects submit communications strategies and action plans, explaining how they will promote their projects to a variety of audiences.

In addition, they are asked to provide a quarterly activity report, detailing their completed activities over the preceding three months and their planned activities for the next three months. That information is presented in Appendix A.

Some examples of press releases are attached as Appendix B.

List of Growth Deal projects – December 2015 activity report

Appendix A

Project ID	Project Name	Comms Plan	Action Plan	Contact Details
GF01-04	<p>Centenary Way Viaduct Maintenance</p> <p>Last three months</p> <p>News release re project progress – November 2015 Stakeholder update – January 2016</p> <p>Next three months</p> <p>News release re end of project late March/early April</p>			David.Leung@lancashire.gov.uk
GF01-02	Blackburn Town Centre Improvements			james.syson@blackburn.gov.uk
GF01-05-CD	<p>Preston City Centre Improvements</p> <p>Last three months</p> <p>News release issued re start of phase 2b – from Cheapside to Preston Minster. Face to face meetings with local business explaining timescales and how they will be affected Information in St George's shopping centre Temporary tone of voice signage to explain improvements Social media Updates on C First and Cityspace (Preston CC) Stakeholder update briefing via email Regular updates to councillors</p> <p>Next three months</p> <p>No planned activities.</p>			Anne-Marie.Parkinson@lancashire.gov.uk

GF01-06	<p>M55 to St Annes Link road</p> <p>Nil return</p>			Neil.Stevens@lancashire.gov.uk
GF01-03	<p>Blackburn-Bolton Rail Corridor</p> <p>Last three months Issued press releases about the upcoming improvements at stations in the Ribble Valley and in BwD which are also funded through the scheme (Nov/Dec 2015).</p> <p>Next three months Campaign for the introduction of additional services on the line as part of the next Northern Franchise. (Ongoing 2015/16)</p>			james.syson@blackburn.gov.uk
GF01-01	<p>Burnley-Pendle Growth Corridor</p> <p>Last three months News release re start of junction 7 work (Dec 2015) News release re start of junction 13 work (Feb 2016) Stakeholder briefing issued re the Junction 13 work</p> <p>Next three months News release to be issued re completion of junction 12 work News release to be issued re start of construction on Blackburn Road/Dunkenhalgh works.</p>			Sarah.Dunn@lancashire.gov.uk
GF01-07	<p>East Lancashire Strategic Cycle Network</p> <p>Last three months: Attend and give presentations to district cycling forums Response to issues raised in press articles and on social media about surfacing on one particular section of Cycleway Meeting held with local district councillors to discuss design issues on Section 13 of National Cycle Route 6. Working with Mid Pennine Arts £15,000 external (Arts Council)</p>			Andrew.Mullaney@lancashire.gov.uk

	<p>funding secured to support activities. First stakeholder meetings held in 2 locations.</p> <p>Next three months: Leaflet to be produced publicising the project and asking for feedback on use of routes and surfacing issues. Webpage to be updated with links to consultation. Press Release to be issued in March 2016 to announce the start of the above consultation process. Produce display board to use at consultation events including in connection with above. Organise drop in consultation events to publicise project and secure feedback on surfacing issues (March/April 2016) Produce signage / boards for sections of the route when they are under construction(March 2016) Working with Mid Pennine Arts on a programme of community engagement through arts projects (Feb 2016 onwards) Work with Sustrans to develop plans for opening event at Lumb Viaduct, (S15 National Cycle Route 6) (Feb to April 2016)</p>			
<p>GF01-20-CD</p>	<p>Preston Western Distributor</p> <p>Last three months Contractor announced Stakeholder events planned Mailing to 8,000 residents Fly-through video created Relevant area of City Deal website updated</p> <p>Next three months News release re planning app submission (March)</p>			<p>Phil.Wilson@lancashire.gov.uk</p>
<p>GF01-22-CD</p>	<p>A6 Broughton Bypass</p> <p>Last three months</p>			<p>Martin.Galloway@lancashire.gov.uk</p>

	<p>Press release to announce appointment of Hochtief as contractor and start date for works November 2015. Press release re ground breaking ceremony 11 January. Public information event (follow-up) in January at Broughton Sports Club about A6 Corridor improvements and opportunity to meet HOCHTIEF. Designed and erected signs on A6 about start of work on the bypass. Reviewed and updated Broughton Bypass pages on City Deal website. Shared link to fly-over on City Deal social media channels. Include update in City Deal e-bulletin and LEP business brief.</p> <p>Next three months</p> <p>Media relations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Press release to announce start date for main works.▪ Press release to communicate A6 corridor proposals to LCC planning committee <p>E-Communications</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Update City Deal website with any further updates to construction/progress.▪ Update City Deal website content for A6 corridor improvements <p>Stakeholder Relations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Draft and issue monthly updates on work progress/traffic management to all stakeholders.▪ Issue specific update on A6 corridor improvements <p>Public information</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Issue letters to residents affected by specific construction work starting. <p>HOCHTIEF (UK) Construction</p> <p>Agree communications protocol for the scheme with HOCHTIEF</p>			
GF01-23	Darwen East Distributor			Mike.Cliffe@blackburn.gov.uk

Project ID	RENEWAL OF BLACKPOOL			
GF01-08	<p>Blackpool Bridges</p> <p>Last three months</p> <p>Updates issued via Press release, Blackpool Council Social media accounts, Blackpool Council website and Your Blackpool community newspaper</p> <p>Next three months</p> <p>Press releases will be issued in March 16 to mark end of current phase of work. Stakeholder events and meetings aimed at local business improvement district and hotel operators.</p>			will.britain@blackpool.gov.uk
GF01-14-S	<p>Blackpool and the Fylde College M and E Bispham Campus</p> <p>Last three months</p> <p>Presentations to Academic Management Team and Corporate Management Team regarding how the work will affect them (Jan 2016)</p> <p>Next three months</p> <p>Information issued to staff, students and visitors via email, intranet and posters on how the work will affect them. (March 16) Press release and publicity on award of contract angled on investing in sustainable infrastructure (April/May 16)</p>			John.Pye@blackpool.ac.uk
GF01-09	<p>Blackpool Integrated Traffic Management</p> <p>Last three months</p> <p>Presentation to stakeholders at highways Consultative Forum in December 2015.</p> <p>Next three months</p> <p>Ongoing discussions with interested parties re initial concepts.</p>			jeremy.walker@blackpool.gov.uk

GF01-10	<p>Blackpool Heritage Based Visitor Attraction HBVA</p> <p>Last three months Regular social media posts regarding the development of the museum concept Weekly blog posts from the Museum team, historians and volunteers Three discussion events in December and January mark the beginning of the conversation with the public about three potentially sensitive stories to be featured in the Museum Taking our volunteers and focus groups to Museums and cultural venues outside of Blackpool to learn about different aspects of Museums and bring that learning back</p> <p>Next three months Regular social media posts regarding the development of the museum concept Weekly blog posts from the Museum team, historians and volunteers Trial and develop stories and interpretative design approach, whilst engaging with key stakeholders and creating project advocacy</p>			<p>polly.hamilton@blackpool.gov.uk</p>
GF01-21	<p>Blackpool Town Centre Green Corridors</p> <p>Nil return – business case still being prepared.</p>			<p>david.simper@blackpool.gov.uk</p>
GF01-24	<p>Blackpool Tramway Extension</p>			<p>jeremy.walker@blackpool.gov.uk</p>
Project ID	GROWING THE LOCAL SKILLS & BUSINESS BASE			

GF01-15-S	<p>Blackpool and the Fylde College, Nautical College – Maritime Engineering Facility</p> <p>Last three months Intranet news story posted about the project in advance of start on site (Dec 15) Separate sub-page created under Fleetwood Nautical Campus section http://www.blackpool.ac.uk/nautical/facilities/mec and links made from other relevant pages (Jan 16) Press release and artists impressions issued for start on site. (Jan16) Coming soon banner erected on site and pop-up banner on campus (Feb 16) Information at Campus Careers Day (Feb 16)</p> <p>Next three months Article in Nautilus Telegraph(trade press) (March 16) Pop-up banner/plans at B&FC open day (March 16) House calls with neighbours by contractor (March 16) Newsletter reproduced to A3 and posted on campus noticeboards (March 16)</p>			<p>John.Pye@blackpool.ac.uk</p>
GF01-13-S	<p>Blackpool and the Fylde College - Lancashire Energy HQ</p> <p>Last three months Press release issued with reaction to granting of planning permission (11/02/16) Enewsletter produced for staff (15/2/16)</p> <p>Next three months Press release and publicity announcing appointment of contractor (End of March 2016) Discussions around branding for online presence (March/April 2016) Interview opportunity with newly appointed Head of Energy HQ (April/May 2016)</p>			<p>John.Pye@blackpool.ac.uk</p>

GF01-16-S	<p>Fleetwood Fire Training Centre Phase 2</p> <p>Last three months Campus careers day (Feb 2016). Campus networking event for major industry players</p> <p>Next three months Press release and publicity for submission of helipad planning application (End of March 2016)</p>			John.Pye@blackpool.ac.uk
GF02-25	M6 J28 Improvements & Business Growth Centre			gary.hall@chorley.gov.uk
GF02-26	Rawtenstall Redevelopment Zone			gareth@barnfieldconstruction.co.uk
GF02-27	Redevelopment of Brierfield Mill			gareth@barnfieldconstruction.co.uk
GF01-12-S	<p>Runshaw College - Science & Engineering</p> <p>Last three months:</p> <p>Next three months: Articles placed in Construction View and Premier Construction magazines (Nov/Dec 2015) SEIC featured on new Runshaw College website (end Nov 2015) Direct mail to prospective students Nov/Dec 2015)</p> <p>Adult College open event – permanent displays created re SEIC (Jan 2016) Social media promotion of SEIC (November 2015 and ongoing)</p>			lvill.J@runshaw.ac.uk
GF01-18-S	Training 2000 - Additional Engineering Training Capability			sian.wilson@t2000.co.uk
Project ID	INNOVATION & MANUFACTURING EXCELLENCE			

GF02-28	<p>Burnley Vision Park</p> <p>Nil return. Project goes to LEP board for consideration in April. Comms strategy promised in March.</p>			<p>KIngram@burnley.gov.uk JSharples@burnley.gov.uk</p>
GF02-29	<p>The Engineering & Innovation Centre - UCLan</p> <p>Last three months PR around Engineering graduation stories Attendance by outreach officer at regional Engineering Your Future exhibitions</p> <p>Next three months EIC Newsletter (planned for March) Press release announcing submission of planning permission for EIC (planned for March) News release re Shell eco-car funding (planned for March) Masterplan update newsletter which will feature new artists impressions of the EIC (planned for March) News release re Sir Kevin Smith to join the EIC Industry Steering group.</p>			<p>PAThomas@uclan.ac.uk</p>
GF01-11	<p>Lancaster Health Innovation Park</p>			<p>d.williams2@lancaster.ac.uk</p>
GF02-30	<p>Making Rooms - Lancashire's First Fab Lab</p>			<p>Martin.Eden@blackburn.gov.uk</p>
GF01-17-S	<p>Myerscough College - Farm, Innovation Technology Centre</p> <p>Last three months Project proposals included within 16/17 prospectus. Project proposals included within presentation for college open days Project highlighted and forms part of application for Skills Provider of the Year Award as part of the Red Rose Awards.</p> <p>Next three months</p>			<p>jwherry@myerscough.ac.uk</p>

	<p>Article in Lancashire Business View magazine following application for Skills Provider of the Year Award (31/03/16) Press release highlighting LEP funding to support the project and commencement of construction phase. (31/03/16) Project scheduled to be discussed at Agriculture area Technical Advisory Board meeting (16/03/16) Focus group meeting to update and discuss progress with key industry executives (31/05/16) College website updated with project details (31/05/16)</p>			
GF01-19-S	<p>Nelson & Colne College - Advanced Engineering & Manufacturing Innovation Centre</p> <p>Last three months Open Event (November 2015) Employer and partner event to launch new facilities (Jan 16)</p> <p>Next three months Targeted PR through local press and radio channels to highlight the benefits of the new build to employers, local community and potential learners. (Ongoing)</p>			<p>a.rushton@nelson.ac.uk</p>

Key:

Received	
Promised	
No information	

Construction nears completion on Runshaw's £6.2m science facility

The construction of a new facility at Runshaw College's Euxton Lane campus in Chorley – which has been partly funded by the Lancashire Enterprise Partnership - is nearing completion.

The £6.2m Science Engineering Innovation Centre's external structure has been finalised and the 'first fix' of internal works, such as plastering and electrics, is now ongoing.

The state-of-the-art facility, due for handover in March 2016, will host cutting edge laboratories and workshops, accommodating up to 400 new students across a wide range of engineering and science programmes.

By combining university qualifications and Apprenticeship programmes, Runshaw aims to transform science and engineering skills training locally, in terms of both volume and quality through this new development. Once operational, the SEIC will facilitate and support the College's aim to revolutionise the employability of students in the region.

Made a reality through £4.3m funding from the Lancashire Enterprise Partnership (LEP), the SEIC forms part of the LEP's 'Hub and Spoke' programme, providing educational centres of excellence with new industry-focused facilities.

Runshaw College's Principal, Simon Partington, recently welcomed representatives from stakeholder organisations for a tour of the site.

Dr Michele Lawty-Jones, Director, Lancashire Skills Hub, said: "The LEP has £30m overall to invest in creating hundreds of extra training and apprenticeship places for local young people across Lancashire.

"The new centre at Runshaw College is only one of a number of new facilities and programmes supported by the LEP's funding that will be opening over the next few months and years, with the aim of ensuring Lancashire's workforce has the skills employers will need in the future.

"A highly skilled workforce is an essential part of the LEP's ambitious multi-million pound strategic economic growth programme to grow the local economy significantly and create tens of thousands of new jobs."

The LEP aims to create 50,000 jobs, build 40,000 new homes and support the delivery of the infrastructure needed for this ambitious growth, boosting the local economy by £3bn by 2025.

Principal, Simon Partington, believes the new centre will boost the local economy and transform the employability of those studying science and engineering programmes at Runshaw.

Simon said: "We're delighted to see such progress on the site and are looking forward to the handover. The Science & Engineering Innovation Centre is vital for our area, as Lancashire has the largest concentration of aerospace production and high technology manufacturing in the UK and these sectors are anticipated to grow over the next few years. Similarly, the need for qualified science professionals is predicted to increase, with demand in particular in pharmacology, physiology, biotechnology, drug metabolism, toxicology and pathology."

"The SEIC has been designed to support growth in these sectors and to enhance our current partnerships with local businesses. We aim to deliver real business benefits through the provision of innovative education and training programmes, working collaboratively with employers to ensure the creation of a highly skilled workforce for the future."

The 2150m² two storey extension to the campus' existing building will play a key part the provision of training for the Preston, South Ribble and Lancashire City Deal. City Deal will see an investment of £434 million to expand transport infrastructure in the area at an unprecedented rate, driving the creation of around 20,000 new jobs and generating the development of more than 17,000 new homes over the next ten years.

The SEIC development has been supported by both Chorley Council and South Ribble Borough Council.

Councillor Alistair Bradley, Chorley Council leader, said: "This will be a fantastic facility which will help local people get the skills they need to get better paid jobs in one of Lancashire's top growth sectors. "Boosting the local economy is one of our main priorities and one way we can make that happen is to help our residents find work, which is why we work closely with Runshaw College on our apprenticeship programme."

Councillor Phil Smith, South Ribble Borough Council cabinet member with responsibility for regeneration and leisure said: "It is fantastic to see the Science Engineering Innovation Centre near completion.

"The new centre at Runshaw College will provide students with the very best technology and resources to help them in their careers.

"South Ribble Borough Council are extremely proud to have supported this facility and it will prove crucial to the borough, especially with such strong automotive and aerospace roots which will continue to thrive and grow with the Preston, South Ribble and Lancashire City Deal.

"To see students using this excellent, state-of-the-art facility is fantastic and the SEIC will encourage more students to take up these subjects which, in turn, will encourage the growth of these key sectors.

"The skills and trades which will be taught here will help them to become the future of South Ribble and Lancashire."

ENDS

Photo caption:

*Dr Michele Lawty-Jones - Director, Lancashire Skills Hub
Cllr Phil Smith - Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Leisure, South Ribble Borough Council
Cllr Alistair Bradley – Leader, Chorley Council
Claire Foreman - Deputy Principal, Runshaw College
Simon Partington - Principal, Runshaw College*

Notes to editors:

The Lancashire Skills Hub is part of the LEP. It is a strategic unit working in partnership with Lancashire businesses and stakeholders to build a skilled labour market, improve economic well-being and stimulate economic growth.

The £30m Growth Deal Skills Capital Programme has been funded via the £251.1 million secured by the LEP from the Government's Local Growth Fund to support economic growth in Lancashire.

The Lancashire Growth Deal aims to realise the growth potential of the whole of Lancashire, building on key local economic assets including the universities and colleges, the Enterprise Zone, the Preston, South Ribble and Lancashire City Deal and high-value business clusters across the county.

Over the lifetime of the deal (2015 – 2021) the Growth Deal is expected to create up to 8000 new jobs, 3000 new homes and attract £280m of additional public and private investment to Lancashire.

LEP unlocks development in Lancashire

Burnley Bridge Business Park, a 70-acre employment site near Junction 9 of the M65, is a good example of how the Lancashire Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) is investing strategically to unlock development at key sites with the aim of boosting business and creating jobs.

The £50m industrial park, which is on the outskirts of Burnley, is set to create 1,400 new and sustainable jobs in the area when it is fully-occupied.

Combining an excellent location with a high standard of purpose-built industrial, office and warehousing accommodation, Burnley Bridge will offer around one million sq ft of industrial/warehousing space, with purpose-built, contemporary units offering operational cost savings of up to 50 per cent as compared to older facilities.

The Lancashire LEP used funding from its Growing Places fund to help 'unlock' development at the scheme. The LEP has invested three quarters of its £20m Growing Places fund in commercial loans that provide the investment needed for key projects which will encourage economic growth and job creation.

The LEP's has contributed to the £34m scheme to build new offices, a hotel, shops and a restaurant in the historic Blackburn Cathedral Quarter. The new mixed use development responds to the setting but also to the current underperformance of the area, economically, socially and environmentally, ensuring buildings and spaces are fully-utilised.

The Growing Places fund is just one strand of the LEP's ambitious multi-million pound investment programme to support and grow business.

Over the next ten to 15 years, the LEP aims to create 50,000 new jobs, encourage the building of 40,000 new houses and boost the Lancashire economy by £3 billion in total.

Lancashire is already an economic powerhouse, with many world class businesses and strong exports, but the LEP aims to take the economy to a whole new level.

One of the LEP's flagship initiatives, the Preston, South Ribble and Lancashire City Deal, is a transformational, once in a lifetime investment programme to power up central Lancashire. Driven by the LEP, the City Deal, signed in 2013 by government, has seen local councils, government departments and the private sector pool resources and invest in a major infrastructure programme.

New and improved roads will allow new housing in areas like north west Preston and new commercial developments in, for example, Preston city centre and Cuerden, which will boost the Lancashire economy.

The impact is already being felt across central Lancashire which has posted strong house-building figures for the last quarter with more starts ups than anywhere else in the north-west.

The country's transport connectivity, by road and rail, needs improving, not only to allow businesses to operate more efficiently within Lancashire but also to make sure Lancashire is better connected to the emerging Northern Powerhouse. The LEP's transport body, Transport for Lancashire, is developing, for the first time in decades, a transport strategy which can deliver both these objectives.

In fact, the LEP's Growth Deal investment programme will see many of these transport priorities funded and delivered in the next six years. The Growth Deal is also financing capital projects which support innovation and research, improve skills for the workforce and develop new commercial floorspace in Lancashire's towns and cities.

Zoning in on job creation

The LEP's Enterprise Zone at Samlesbury and Warton will form a centre of excellence for advanced manufacturing, attracting investment into Lancashire and creating jobs, building on BAE Systems' world leading aerospace business.

At Samlesbury, work has begun on a new BAE Systems £15.6m state-of-the-art facility to train apprentices from across the region, and Wincanton recently agreed to become the first non-BAE firm to set up in the enterprise zone, creating 70 new jobs for the local area. A new road already being built will run through the site providing two major new gateway entrances, maximising the site's excellent location.

When both sites are fully occupied, up to 6,000 highly skilled jobs will be created with more jobs in the local supply chain.

Meanwhile the LEP has worked hard with local landowners to develop two more EZ proposals which have been submitted to government for consideration: Blackpool Airport Corridor and at Hillhouse International Business Park.

The 138 hectare Hillhouse site is already occupied by over 40 businesses and has been a centre of advanced chemical manufacturing since the 1950s.

Building on this heritage and targeting firms within the wider energy and advanced manufacturing sectors could double the number of local jobs to over 3,500 in twenty years.

Meanwhile, the 144-hectare site Blackpool airport site will build on the existing strengths of the local economy, including the oil and gas industry, and could support many as 3,000 new jobs up to 2037.

An ambitious plan for growth

By LEP Chair Edwin Booth

With an economy of over £25 billion, Lancashire is home to over 40,000 businesses. We are the UK's leading region for aerospace manufacture, and related industries, and have rapidly growing clusters across energy, advanced manufacturing, chemicals and automotive sectors.

We also have a strong visitor economy, boast three world-class universities, and are surrounded by some of the country's most outstanding rural and coastal beauty.

The Lancashire Enterprise Partnership (LEP) aims to leverage these considerable competitive advantages and unique assets to deliver an economic step change through a growth plan of national significance.

We aim to support opportunities which maximise jobs and growth, improving the capability and capacity of our local economy, seizing new market opportunities and overcoming barriers that constrain our economic prosperity in order to re-establish Lancashire as a national economic leader.

We are delivering this through a number of priorities:

- Our City Deal programme to transform Central Lancashire, creating thousands of new jobs and homes
- The Lancashire Enterprise Zone, forming a centre of excellence for high technology manufacturing
- Our Growth Deal, investing in new innovation and skills facilities, building roads and releasing more land for homes and businesses
- Our business growth hub, Boost, has worked with over local 3,000 SMEs to develop their individual growth plans

A range of major projects to improve connectivity throughout the county and to the rest of the UK

- Expert advice, funded programmes and financial incentives to support business
- A multi-million pound programme of flexible training to develop key skills

Together, these will enable us to create 50,000 new jobs and build 40,000 new homes, boosting the economy by £3bn over the next ten to 15 years.

Edwin Booth welcomes strong housing growth figures in Lancashire

Lancashire is leading the way on house-building with more new home starts in the last quarter than anywhere else in the North West, according to Government figures.

Work started on 1,140 new dwellings in the three months up to the end of August – an impressive 3.2 per cent of nationwide home starts and more than in areas such as Greater Manchester and Liverpool as well as many regions outside the North West.

The impressive figures have been hailed as a very encouraging result by the Lancashire Enterprise Partnership (LEP), which has prioritised house-building in the county.

LEP works to support and encourage local businesses. It aims to build more homes as part of a massive investment programme to create 50,000 new jobs and boost the local economy by £3bn.

LEP has made funding available across Lancashire for homes and has identified potential sites for development. A major house building programme is central to the Preston, South Ribble and Lancashire City Deal, the LEP's once-in-a-lifetime funding programme to transform central Lancashire. The LEP's Growing Places Fund is also being used to unlock housing developments across the county.

The latest figures show that this is having an effect as house building ramps up.

The Government statistics show that Lancashire's total of house starts this quarter exceeds the 1,100 for Greater Manchester, Cheshire's 670, Liverpool city region's 430 and Cumbria's 400.

In terms of housing completions, Lancashire delivered a credible 850 new homes – less than Greater Manchester and other northern cities but more than many other areas such as Cheshire and Cumbria.

Chair of the LEP, Edwin Booth, said: "This is a strong performance. It is a real achievement to be one of the best counties at house building outside of the housing bubble in the South East of England.

"New homes for the increasing numbers of employees and their families, along with other infrastructure, are being delivered by our City Deal funding and are an essential part of our ambitious multi-million pound programme to grow the local economy by £3bn and create tens of thousands of new jobs.

"These new homes are a clear indication to local people of the tangible improvements the LEP is making to the local economy. We will continue to work with our local authority and developer partners to deliver sustainable housing growth in Lancashire."

Notes for editors.

The data can be found on www.gov.uk and covers the three months to 20 August.

For more on LEP, visit www.lancashirelep.co.uk/

Post-event notice

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

College facilities will keep Lancashire at the forefront of advanced manufacturing

Nelson and Colne College has unveiled a £2m hi-tech engineering facility designed to help the county stay at the forefront of the aerospace and advanced manufacturing sectors.

The College's new department features a subsonic wind-tunnel, along with workshops equipped with the latest technology and software such as computerised numerical control machinery, and was designed in consultation with local employers.

It will help the college's engineering students learn the skills needed to help them get jobs in Lancashire's advanced manufacturing sector.

The department was launched on Tuesday 19 January, when guests, including employers, College governors, and North West Aerospace Alliance's chief executive David Bailey, were given chance to explore the site, which also includes an innovation laboratory and 3D printing and manufacturing area, and take part in demonstrations with students. Companies in attendance included Hycrome (Europe Ltd), JD Engineering, Integrating Aluminium Components and Merc Aerospace Ltd.

An impressive interactive robot called Oscar was also on hand on the night, talking to guests about apprenticeships and giving out canapés from the College's restaurant and bistro.

The Lancashire Enterprise Partnership (LEP) has invested £1.4m into the project, as part of a £30m Lancashire Growth Deal initiative which will support new top-quality facilities across the county offering extra training places and apprenticeships in key sectors of the local economy.

Dr Michele Lawty-Jones, Director of the Lancashire Skills Hub, said: "Being able to learn on advanced equipment such as the wind-tunnel will give students a huge advantage when they go into higher education or the jobs market.

"Lancashire is number one for aerospace and at the forefront of advanced manufacturing generally and to keep that position and develop it still further, we need to make sure we are producing workers with the skills employers will need in the future.

"That's why the LEP is investing in a number of modern, well-equipped training facilities which will open over the next two or three years and help provide the skilled workforce needed to fuel economic growth."

Nelson and Colne College's Assistant Principal for Enterprise and Engagement Alison Rush-ton said: "We would like to say a huge thank you to all our visitors who joined us for our Engineering launch event. This is such an exciting time for the College, and we are looking forward to seeing school, college and adult learners, as well as employers, benefit from this outstanding skills facility.



"This event was designed to showcase the impressive facility to local employers and let them know the services we have on offer, including the manufacturing of components and laser and 3D cutting, and the facilities we have available for use, such as our Innovation Laboratory and adjoining conference facility. By taking on apprentices, businesses can benefit in a number of ways, ensuring they are up to date with industry standards and gaining skilled staff in a cost effective way.

"Manufacturing forms the largest private sector employment for Pendle, so there really is no better time for students to get ready for their future with Nelson and Colne College."

Talking about the new £2million facilities, Northern Powerhouse Minister James Wharton added: "Lancashire is a global player in the aviation and advanced manufacturing markets and thanks to government investment this new facility will help us build on these strengths. Local MP Andrew Stephenson has been a long term campaigner and invited me to visit and see for myself what is being done locally only recently.

"I was left in no doubt that this county has a major role to play in the success of the Northern Powerhouse and this is further proof the region will continue to lead the way with skills and jobs in high-tech sectors as we rebalance the economy."

Engineering is a vocational programme at Nelson and Colne College, which has seen many students progress to top Universities and successful careers. These include Amy Crawshaw, who achieved a triple distinction* in her BTEC Extended Diploma, before leaving to study Mechanical Engineering at the University of Leeds.

For more information about studying Engineering at Nelson and Colne College contact 01282 440217 or visit www.nelson.ac.uk

Notes to editor

For more information please contact Nelson and Colne College's PR and Communications Officer Rebecca Cohen by emailing r.cohen@nelson.ac.uk or ringing 01282 440217.

The latest Alps report places Nelson and Colne College Sixth Form as outstanding across the board, measured against 1480 other education providers.

Latest Government data from the Department for Education's Schools' and Colleges' confirms that Nelson and Colne College Sixth Form is:

- **1st for A Level and Vocational Value Added scores in the local area** These measure the distance between a student's eventual grades compared to the results they were predicted based on their GCSEs
- **The 3rd highest performing college in the country for young Apprenticeship success (16-18 year old)**
- **The BEST in the area for A Level and Vocational grades**

A Level 2015

100% A Level pass rate
Continued rise in A* grades

Vocational 2015



100% Vocational pass rate.

Nelson and Colne College is a Learning and Skills Improvement Service (LSIS) Beacon College – confirming the college's status as one of the best in the country

Nelson and Colne College has been categorised as 'Outstanding'

The LEP aims to boost the local economy by £3bn by 2025, creating 50,000 jobs and supporting the delivery of essential infrastructure, including the building of 40,000 new homes.



12 January 2016



Press Release

Groundworks start on new marine engineering centre

Building work has started on a pioneering new learning centre at Fleetwood Nautical Campus.

The Marine Engineering Centre, due to open in September 2016, will provide a first-class and highly realistic working environment for cadets training as officers at sea.

Advanced facilities mirroring life on board ship mean students will be job-ready and highly skilled to meet the needs of the maritime industry.

The £1.2m project will also allow training to be delivered on a single campus for the first time. Huge growth in the number of students from all over the world choosing to study marine engineering at Fleetwood has meant the College having to lease teaching accommodation elsewhere in the town in recent years. And even this is now becoming unsustainable to meet demand.

In addition, the new building will complement the existing range of cutting edge facilities at Fleetwood, including a five-bridge ship simulator and a survival training tank.

Neil Atkinson, Head of Fleetwood Nautical Campus, said: "With 95% of the UK's imports and exports now transported by sea and the maritime industry worth up to £14bn a year to the economy, the country is crying out for suitability qualified marine engineers.

"By investing in a centre like this, Blackpool and The Fylde College is showing a real commitment to meeting this need and establishing itself as the training provider of choice for the maritime sector.

"Our plans have been received favourably by the shipping companies who have viewed them, which can only strengthen our position and encourage more investment into Lancashire."

The Marine Engineering Centre has been part funded by a Growth Deal grant via the Lancashire Enterprise Partnership. Pinington Construction has been appointed as contractor.

Dr Michele Lawty-Jones, Director of the Lancashire Skills Hub, said: "We are pleased to fund the Marine Engineering Centre, which is part of a world-class maritime training facility attracting trainees from across the UK and beyond.

"By investing in what will be a new first-class training facility, the LEP is helping ensure that Fleetwood and Lancashire will continue to stay at the forefront of the UK and global maritime industry for years to come."

ENDS

Note to Editors:

1. Photographs attached:
 - Artists impression of new building
 - Ground breaking, left to right: Tom Rennie, Site Manager for Pinington Construction; Neil Atkinson, Head of Fleetwood Nautical Campus; Brady Hogg, Curriculum Manager for Marine Engineering
2. The Lancashire Enterprise Partnership has secured £251.1 million from the Government's Local Growth Fund to support economic growth in the area through the Growth Deal.

The Lancashire Growth Deal aims to realise the growth potential of the whole of Lancashire, building on key local economic assets including the universities and colleges, the Enterprise Zone, the Preston, South Ribble and Lancashire City Deal and high-value business clusters across the county.

Over the lifetime of the deal (2015 – 2021) the Growth Deal is expected to create up to 8000 new jobs, 3000 new homes and attract £280m of additional public and private investment to Lancashire.

Press Information:

For more information, please contact Nikki Wilcock, Public Relations Officer on 01253 504336 / 07956 925931 or email nikki.wilcock@blackpool.ac.uk

11 February, 2016

Press Release



Permission granted for flagship energy college

A dedicated training hub for the energy industry moved has a step nearer to reality after being given the go-ahead by planners.

Blackpool and The Fylde College has been advised of permission to build the Lancashire Energy HQ, which is set to become the flagship of the new Blackpool Enterprise Zone.

The Lancashire Enterprise Partnership (LEP) is providing £6.2m in Growth Deal funds towards the £9.8m cost of the project.

Construction will start in summer 2016 and complete in the autumn of 2017, The college will become a centre of excellence for the county and beyond, delivering the higher technical skills, knowledge and training required by the energy sector.

Daryl Platt, Executive Director of Commercial Development at Blackpool and The Fylde College, said: "This is great news for Lancashire and the industries we will be supporting. Our aim is to provide a cutting-edge learning environment producing job-ready students who are highly skilled in advanced engineering, technology and energy solutions.

"The College already has a proven reputation in this field. Fleetwood Nautical Campus has more than 20 years of experience working with both on and off-shore energy sectors. The Lancashire Energy HQ will build on this, adding green and renewable energy technology to the provision offered.

Dr Michele Lawty-Jones, Director, Lancashire Skills Hub, said: "The Lancashire Energy HQ, at the heart of a Blackpool Enterprise Zone specialising in energy, is an important part of the LEP's ambitious strategic programme to transform Lancashire's economy, growing it by £3bn and creating tens of thousands of jobs over the next decade.

"Lancashire is already a world leader in the energy sector and there is huge potential for further development. The energy hub will train the skilled workforce this sector needs which, in turn, will encourage energy firms to invest in Blackpool and Lancashire as a whole.

"This is only one of a number of high quality training facilities the LEP is funding in the county which will boost the job prospects of thousands of local people and ensure we have the skilled workforce we need to fuel economic growth."

Ends

Note to Editors

Lancashire has significant nuclear, off shore oil and gas, wind and renewables industries, employing 41,000 people and featuring a number of world-class businesses in the field, such

as EDF, Toshiba and Assystem. Lancashire universities have a track record of expertise and research excellence in renewables and energy.

The LEP's ambitious strategic growth programme will boost Lancashire's economy by £3bn by 2025, creating 50,000 jobs and supporting the delivery of 40,000 new homes and essential infrastructure.

Press Information:

For more information, please contact Nikki Wilcock, Public Relations Officer on 01253 504336 / 07956 925931 or email nikki.wilcock@blackpool.ac.uk

Pre-event notice

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Launch of £2million engineering facilities

Date: Tuesday 19th January

Time: 5.30pm to 7pm

Venue: Nelson and Colne College Sixth Form, Scotland Road, Nelson BB9 7YT

Nelson and Colne College's new £2million Engineering facilities are set to be showcased to East Lancashire employers and VIPs at a special launch event.

Lancashire Enterprise Partnership (LEP) has invested £1.4m into the impressive department, which includes a unique subsonic wind tunnel, fully equipped workshops with the latest technology and software, and CNC machinery.

On Tuesday 19th January between 5.30pm and 7pm, guests will be given chance to explore the site, which also includes an innovation laboratory and 3D printing and manufacturing area, and take part in demonstrations with students.

Principal of Nelson and Colne College and chair of the LEP Skills Board Amanda Melton, who is set to give the opening speech on the night, said: "We are thrilled that such a huge investment has been made to our Engineering department, and are so grateful for the support shown by the Lancashire Enterprise Partnership. By providing students with the highest quality facilities and experience, we are able to ensure they have the right skills and confidence to be career ready when they leave NCC.

"We are looking forward to welcoming industry professionals into the new department and seeing how we can continue to work with local companies and build successful relationships in the future.

"Engineering is a rapidly growing sector, with 2.56 million job openings predicted in the industry by 2022. For anybody looking to join such an exciting sector, then now is the perfect time to enrol at Nelson and Colne College – where expert tutors can help students achieve their aspirations in a modern and exciting environment."

The Lancashire Enterprise Partnership (LEP) is investing £30m in creating top-quality facilities across the county which will offer extra training places and apprenticeships in key sectors of the local economy.

Dr Michele Lawty-Jones, Director of the Lancashire Skills Hub, said: "This is the first of a number of modern, well-equipped training facilities funded by the LEP which will open over the next two or three years.



“Together, they will transform the job prospects of thousands of local people and help provide the skilled workers employers say they need to grow.

“This initiative is an important part of our ambitious strategic growth programme which will boost the local economy by £3bn and create tens of thousands of extra jobs over the next decade.”

Engineering is a vocational programme at Nelson and Colne College, which has seen many students progress to top Universities and successful careers. These include Amy Crawshaw, who achieved a triple distinction* in her BTEC Extended Diploma, before leaving to study Mechanical Engineering at the University of Leeds.

For more information about studying Engineering at Nelson and Colne College contact 01282 440217 or visit www.nelson.ac.uk

It would be fantastic if you/or a photographer could attend this event. Press, radio and broadcasting opportunities will be available. For more information please contact Nelson and Colne College’s PR and Communications Officer Rebecca Cohen on 01282 440217 or email r.cohen@nelson.ac.uk

Notes to editor

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Continued rise in A* grades

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Lancashire's second industrial revolution

Lancashire is known as the birthplace of the Industrial Revolution, which in the space of a century between 1750 and 1850, transformed the life of England and, in turn, the rest of the world.

Now the county is in the grip of yet another revolution based on the same skills – innovation and making things - that Preston-born Richard Arkwright and his peers showed almost 300 years ago.

The end result is that Lancashire has once again become a major player in business and manufacturing not only in the North and the UK as a whole, but also on the international stage.

Now the Lancashire Enterprise Partnership (LEP) is working to take the county's economy to the next level.

The LEP is driving an ambitious multi-million pound investment programme which will create 50,000 new jobs, build 40,000 new houses and boost the Lancashire economy by a further £3 billion.

To do this – according to LEP Chairman Edwin Booth – the LEP has turned the county's economy "into a business". Just how successful that business is can be judged by the stats.

Lancashire is already the second largest economy in the North – worth £23 billion - with over 40,000 businesses, many of them world-class, and is a significant exporter.

It is the UK's number one hub for aerospace with BAE Systems, Rolls Royce and Safran-Aircelle all making their home there. As a result, Lancashire has attracted a booming supply chain sector which currently employs 20,000 people.

BAE Systems holds the UK's largest ever manufacturing contract to build the fuselage for the F35 superfighter, a fitting achievement for the only region in the UK where you can still build an entire aircraft from start to finish.

Combine aerospace with the county's strengths in the automotive and chemical sectors, and it is clear that Lancashire is one of the UK's key centres for advanced manufacturing.

PACCAR (Leyland Trucks), Piolax, Sanko Gosei and Erlson make up the automotive sector.

And Edwin Booth admits to nursing the ambition to see Lancashire have its own car manufacturing plant with TVR having announced its ambition to again manufacture a range of cars in the UK.

Chemicals – with an emphasis on polymer-science based sectors – and energy also have a formidable line-up in the county with players such as Victrex, Vinnolit and AGCE, joined by Westinghouse Springfield Fuels, Halite, and EDF with Heysham 1 and 2 nuclear reactors.

The energy sector is underpinned by substantial on-shore and off-shore production.

All the manufacturing sectors can call on top-class support from Lancaster University and the University of Central Lancashire.

Now, through the LEP, public and private sector are working together backed by massive Government funding, are working to support and encourage business in the county.

Under its business plan, the LEP has set up an Enterprise Zone as a focal point to drive each sector. There are currently two sites.

Samlesbury – which will have its own advanced training facility - and Warton are anchored by BAE Systems' world leading aerospace business.

Two more sites - at Blackpool airport and at Hillhouse, on the former ICI site at Fleetwood - are in the pipeline. Both are targeting companies to broaden Lancashire's economic base.

Lancashire is about much more than just advanced manufacturing, as the LEP has recognised - the future of an economy is dependent on having a flourishing SME sector.

The LEP's Boost Business Lancashire is a single gateway with skilled advisors to match business needs. The support it provides ranges from technical advice to raising funds linked to a broad range of local and national programmes.

"Whereas we once had 80 or 90 bodies in Lancashire offering business advice – with no one knowing where they had to go – we now have the one," explains Andy Walker, Lancashire County Council's Head of business Growth.

"There are a lot of exciting things going on."

Through its Growth Deal funding, the LEP is supporting business and manufacturing through projects such as an Engineering Innovation Centre, and also an Energy Skills HQ, through which Blackpool & Fylde College will provide training for future energy sector employees.

Meanwhile, the LEP's City Deal funding is being used to ensure the county's infrastructure underpins business growth with, for example, massive new roads building schemes.

"Like any business – and the LEP looks on Lancashire as a business, it's not just a case of getting funds but knowing how to get the most out of them," insists Edwin Booth.

"Every time we have approached the government we have done so just as a private business would do to secure a contract.

"There is no reason why there shouldn't be a second industrial revolution – albeit with different disciplines involved – and why Lancashire shouldn't be at the front of it. That is what the LEP is working towards.

"The Northern Powerhouse will help all of us because together we are much stronger and Lancashire is going to be very much part of it . . ."

www.lancashirelep.co.uk

Ends

Press Release; Immediate Release

24th November 2015

Training provider announces pioneering £1m advanced engineering centre

A Lancashire-based independent training provider has received the green light to create a brand new Advanced Engineering and Manufacturing facility at its North-West headquarters.

The project is thanks to £800,000 received from The Lancashire Enterprise Partnership (LEP) towards the cost of the facility, which will open in early spring next year.

Dr Michele Lawty-Jones, Director of the Lancashire Skills Hub, said:

“The LEP has a multi-million pound investment programme to improve the skills of thousands of local people in a number of key areas of Lancashire’s economy, such as advanced manufacturing, where a more skilled workforce is crucial for growth.”

In its first two years, more than 250 local people will be able to study for Higher Engineering Apprenticeships and take part in upskilling programmes in partnership with businesses, driving skills and economy across the North West. Successful apprentices will have the opportunity to continue their studies up to Degree level.

MP Kate Hollern said:

“I am delighted about this investment in the local area and the boost for higher-level Apprenticeships. This new advanced engineering facility will provide an amazing opportunity which will be fantastic for young people and businesses alike.”

Work has begun installing cutting-edge equipment supplied by world leading machinery manufacturers such as Coventry-based DMG Mori. The installation of the most advanced equipment will provide a world class manufacturing environment, adding value to industry and supporting the region’s SME and blue-chip organisations in improving manufacturing product development efficiencies and capability.

Steve Finn, Managing Director of DMG MORI UK, said;

“By working with Training 2000, we will be able to help them in their objectives of developing the skills of young engineers and in offering technical advice to local businesses. This fits well with our policy of promoting new and innovative manufacturing techniques and inspiring young people to follow a career in engineering.”

Ends

Notes to editors

Training 2000 is one of the largest Group Training Provider’s in the country, with almost 50 years’ experience of delivering high quality work-based learning and training programmes to industry and individuals. We have grown to more than 250 staff and 11 centres within the North West.

Our programmes and Apprenticeships include Automotive, Business, IT, Finance, Construction (including plumbing), Dental Nursing, Engineering, Scaffolding, work preparation courses and Military Preparation.

The LEP's £30m Growth Deal Skills Capital Programme has been funded via the £251.1 million from the Government's Local Growth Fund to support economic growth in Lancashire.

Key Facts

- Training 2000 is the largest Group Training Association in England.
- We are a national training provider with 3 OFSTED Grade 1's (overall Grade 2).
- Overall success rate for all T2000 Apprenticeships is 83.4% compared to a national average of 67.3%.
- Our learners have recently won 2 gold and 3 silver medals at the World Skills National Finals
- With almost 50 years' experience in training and development we have established strong and successful partnerships across the North of England with schools, employers and community groups.
- We have over 250 staff covering the UK.
- Our board members are made up of employers, this helps us to ensure that a real life training and development environment is embedded in everything that we do so we are developing learners from school age onwards to the needs of the job market today and in the future.

All media enquiries and to arrange photos, contact:

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**Lancashire Enterprise Partnership Press Information
Embargoed Until 4 February 2016**

**Lancashire LEP launches ambitious Transport Strategy firmly putting the
county at the heart of the Northern Powerhouse**

**New Transport Prospectus outlines how major investments in rail and road initiatives
could create 15,000 new jobs and generate £685m in new economic growth**

The Lancashire Enterprise Partnership (LEP) has today (February 4th) published its latest Strategic Transport Prospectus which sets out the opportunities for Lancashire with regards to unlocking substantial economic potential via better transport connectivity.

The Prospectus highlights how through better transport links Lancashire can take full advantage of the government's aspirations for a thriving Northern Powerhouse, and maximise the benefits offered by the county's proximity to the North's key city-regions.

The 48-page report, entitled *Lancashire – as part of interconnected and productive northern powerhouse*, outlines the LEP's national, regional and local transport priorities in the short, medium and long term and conveys the LEP's vision of a physically connected and economically integrated Lancashire.

The Prospectus also shows through detailed analysis that if the ambitious programme being put forward by the LEP was fully realised it could create 15,000 net new jobs and would contribute an additional £685m GVA a year to the UK economy.

With regards to rail the report outlines how the government's proposals for HS2 and HS3 could transform Lancashire's role as a gateway to the whole of the North, and further how the and regeneration of Preston Rail Station could stimulate substantial economic activity across the entire region.

For example by 2037, HS2 could generate the equivalent of £600m additional economic impact (at today's prices) and create around 3,000 new jobs. Such a high speed rail link could also help attract up to 75,000 additional visitors (net) annually, which in turn could add some £3.3m to the local economy each year.

Similarly it has been calculated that an expanded and modernised Preston Rail Station could create a total of 7,850 jobs and £324m in GVA over the coming decades.

Lancashire's Transport Prospectus illustrates how faster and more frequent journeys between Lancashire's main conurbations and between Lancashire's towns and cities to Manchester, Liverpool and Leeds, could substantially increase levels of inward investment, create jobs and boost the number of inbound and outbound commuters.

Other rail proposals put forward include improved services to and from a number of Lancashire's hinterland towns, and several major electrification schemes which would greatly improve inter-county connectivity.

Road priorities include all the major motorways which traverse Lancashire including specific stretches and junctions of the M6, M61, M65, M66 and M55.

In addition many major artery roads in Lancashire, including those that are crucial to access areas such as Blackpool, South Fylde, Fleetwood and Lancaster, are highlighted as requiring improvement together with proposals on how to improve traffic flow, reduce congestion and alleviate 'pinch points' throughout Lancashire. Another major road scheme outlined includes a potential new River Ribble crossing, to link together the Preston Western Distributor and the South Ribble Western Distributor roads.

The Transport Prospectus will now be presented to central government and used to help leverage additional funding to support the LEP's overarching Strategic Economic Plan and build on the success of City Deal and Growth Plan which the LEP helped to secure and is delivering major economic and transport schemes in all parts of the County.

The LEP also intends to use the report as way to clearly make the case for Lancashire as a major player in the Northern Powerhouse initiative, with the Prospectus highlighting Lancashire's substantial untapped economic potential which can be unlocked through better strategic transport links. It also emphasises how Lancashire occupies a unique geographical position in the North West, and can act as a gateway to whole of the North of England and Scotland.

The Prospectus will be regularly reviewed by the LEP and local authority partners to ensure new schemes critical to Lancashire's long-term economic success are identified and included.

Jennifer Mein, Leader of Lancashire County Council and Chair of Transport for Lancashire, the LEP's strategic body for the delivery of transport policy, said: *"This is the most extensive and ambitious transport plan Lancashire has ever put forward. It conveys not only the key transport priorities and needs of the county in order to deliver sustainable growth but also reflects the LEP's vision for Lancashire as a region that is fully integrated, both physically and economically. This document is also fundamentally about Lancashire's evidenced case-making to support more and better connectivity as a means to improve our access and economic influence over the Northern Powerhouse as a whole.*

"It recognises that all parts of Lancashire are crucial to its long term prosperity, which is why in addition to national and regional priorities the Transport Prospectus includes detailed local plans to address the economic needs of specific towns and areas. Such interlinked factors are at the heart of the government's vision for a more connected and more productive North, and it is one which Lancashire wholeheartedly embraces."

Edwin Booth, Chair of the Lancashire Enterprise Partnership, said: *"This report clearly shows how both existing and new funding for transport interventions will help us unlock a significant number of new jobs, new housing and new commercial development in Lancashire. It also builds on the fantastic investment the LEP has already helped to secure via initiatives such as the City Deal and the Growth Deal, and further sends a clear signal to both government and our northern neighbours about Lancashire's ambition, appetite and determination to play a key role in the north's economic prosperity."*

John Cridland, Independent Chair of Transport for the North (TfN) said: *"There is much to do to improve transport capacity and links across the north and making this happen requires an ambitious vision at both a pan-northern and local level. For the first time, TfN brings together the whole of the north to speak with one voice on the big transport decisions to benefit the region as a whole, building towards the creation of the Northern Powerhouse. We welcome Lancashire's Transport Prospectus and see it as a clear commitment to our vision and look forward to working closely with Transport for Lancashire and the LEP to build on existing strengths and ensure that every part of the north benefits in the development of the Northern Transport Strategy."*

ENDS

For all media enquiries, interview requests, copies of the prospectus and launch images please contact Richard Bond or Andrew Spinoza at SKV Communications on 0161 838 7770. Email firstname.surname@skvcommunications.co.uk

Notes to Editors

About Lancashire's Transport Prospectus

Lancashire has already secured £107m of investment for major transport schemes as part of the £430m Preston, South Ribble and Lancashire LEP City Deal, one of only five such deals nationally. As a result of this accelerated investment, a number of projects have already been completed or are well underway. These include major rail capacity enhancements between Blackburn and Bolton, the Broughton Bypass, and improvements to the Burnley-Pendle Growth Corridor.

In addition to securing further transport funding, through the Lancashire Growth Deal, the LEP convinced Government to accelerate this funding into the next 5 years to support delivery of City Deal road schemes and the key transport investment priorities for both Blackburn with Darwen and Blackpool Councils.

The 2016 Strategic Transport Prospectus for Lancashire is underpinned by five Highways and Transport Masterplans covering the entire LEP footprint. These masterplans have ensured that for the first time strategic transport investment across all modes has been aligned with economic development and spatial planning priorities including housing.

Copies of the full Transport Prospectus, which includes a wealth of specific details on individual projects, economic forecasts and a broad timeline of potential delivery is available upon request.

About Transport for Lancashire

Transport for Lancashire (TfL) is a dedicated committee of the Lancashire Enterprise Partnership and demonstrates the resolve of Lancashire's three local transport authorities (Lancashire County Council, Blackburn with Darwen Council and Blackpool Council) to work constructively and decisively with the private sector to deliver binding priorities. TfL's responsibilities include:

- Monitoring progress and advising the LEP Board on scheme delivery
- Advising the LEP Board on scheme approvals and investment decision making
- Advising the LEP Board on long-term rail planning and franchise specification and provide a co-ordinating role between constituent local authorities; and
- Advising the LEP Board on long-term Strategic Road Network planning and provide a co-ordinating role between constituent local authorities.

Lancashire's Current Transport Investment Programme

Through the City Deal, the LEP secured a 10-yr local major transport programme, accelerated to a 6-yr delivery programme through the LEP's 2014 Growth Deal for Lancashire. This current transport investment programme comprises:

Scheme	Total Cost	Status
Centenary Way Viaduct Maintenance, Burnley	£1.82m	Under construction
Blackpool Integrated Traffic Management	£2.42m	Funding approval October 2015
Blackpool Bridges Maintenance	£4.23m	Under construction
Blackburn Town Centre Improvements	£0.23m	Funding approval April 2016
Preston City Centre Improvements	£7.00m	Funding approval October 2015
M55 to St Annes Link Road	£15.00m	To be advised
Blackburn to Manchester Rail Corridor	£13.80m	Completed
Burnley – Pendle Growth Corridor	£12.00m	Funding approval December 2015
East Lancashire Strategic Cycle Network	£5.89m	Under construction
Preston Western Distributor	£92.00m	Funding approval December 2017
Broughton Bypass	£24.30m	Funding approval October 2015
Blackpool Town Centre Green Corridors	£7.34m	Funding approval April 2016
Blackpool Tramway Extension	£18.20m	Funding approval April 2017
Darwen East Distributor	£3.00m	Funding approval February 2017



LEP – Sub Committee

Growth Deal Management Board

Private and Confidential: No

Wednesday 9th March 2016

Monitoring & Evaluation Sub Group Update

Report Author: Richard Hothersall, Programme Office, 01772 535430
growthdeal@lancashire.gov.uk

Executive Summary

The information below updates the GDMB on:

1. Social Value
2. Growth Deal Metrics
3. Monitoring and Evaluation Framework
4. Membership of the Growth Deal Monitoring & Evaluation Sub Group

Recommendation

The Growth Deal Management Board is invited to note the contents of this report.

Background and Advice

Social Value

The initial discussions with sponsors on social value continue to be very positive with evidence of positive outcomes and a desire to engage with the approach. The sub-group were heartened that the discussions with existing "live projects" during monitoring visits have been universally positive and that projects are keen to highlight and evidence the social value benefits of their schemes.

An update from the Brierfield Mill project (which was due to be taken forward by colleagues in Economic Development as part of the business case development discussions) was awaited and hoped to be as positive.

It was recognised that a separate report would be tabled for consideration by Growth Deal Management Board relating to how social value will be further taken forward,



and the sub-group re-affirmed their commitment to support this important activity as appropriate.

Overall metrics – presentation option

As the accountable body undertaking the monitoring of the Growth Deal projects, a detailed and auditable set of monitoring metrics is maintained for each project. The monitoring that takes place is against the agreed metrics (outcomes, outputs and project milestones) as agreed and formalised within individual growth fund agreements.

This monitoring enables auditable draw down of monies and robust progress monitoring against project plans.

Additionally, the combined programme outcomes and metrics have been combined into a single document which is updated as projects receive LEP approval. (This is maintained, updated and presented to the Growth Deal Management Board at each meeting).

Should the Growth Deal Management Board wish, a short presentation of the current monitoring arrangements could be made at a future meeting?

Monitoring and Evaluation Framework – refresh

The Growth Deal Monitoring & Evaluation Framework has been refreshed and is being reviewed by the sub-group prior to submission to the GDMB. The previous version was dated May 2015 and written before the appointment of the evaluation framework partner. As a living document, it should be refreshed annually.

Membership of the sub-group

It is recognised that as the sub-group had been in operation for over 6 months, that it would be appropriate to review that membership of the sub-group.

Current membership is predominantly 6 representatives from the accountable body, with only a small number of representatives who are external to the accountable body.

- Moshin Mulla, Blackburn with Darwen Borough Council
- Robert Latham, Blackpool Borough Council
- Dion Williams, Lancaster University
- Leighton Cardwell, Jacobs

The representative from Jacobs has not attended any meetings and no representative from Skills has been forthcoming.



LEP – Sub Committee

Growth Deal Management Board

Private and Confidential: No

Wednesday 9 March 2016

Social Value Update

Report Author: Alison Moore, Programme Office, Lancashire County Council,
Growthdeal@lancashire.gov.uk

Executive Summary

The purpose of this report is to provide a summary of progress made since the last meeting of the Growth Deal Management Board

Recommendation

The Board are invited to receive, consider and comment on the update.

Background and Advice

The Growth Deal Management Board are committed to maximising the Social Value benefits of the individual projects that form part of the Growth Deal Programme, and the Social Value benefits across the Growth Deal Programme.

In order to progress towards realising this aspiration the Growth Deal Management Board, on 21 October 2015, agreed to produce a “Toolkit for Wider Economic and Social Benefits for Growth Deal Projects in Lancashire. In order to do this the Board decided to establish a small working group to include: Graham Cowley, Dr Michele Lawty-Jones, Richard Hothersall, Alison Moore and Martine Winder.

- Update from the last Growth Deal Management Board Meeting (19 January 2016)

At the last meeting of the Growth Deal Management Board it was reported that the GDMB Social Value Working Group had met and were in the process of developing a template for capturing and monitoring social value outcomes across growth deal projects. Mrs Moore confirmed that the template would initially be trialled with two projects and that the findings will be reported to the next Committee.



➤ Progress since last meeting

As part of the scheduled monitoring meeting with the Blackburn-Bolton Rail Corridor project a conversation took place with the project sponsor about Social Value. The discussion was extremely positive, and the project sponsor was keen to complete appropriate sections of the template in order to capture the relevant aspects of social value.

Given the very positive nature of this conversation an opportunity has now been taken to have discussions with all project sponsors during monitoring meetings with them. To date the conversations have been, without fail, positive and all projects have agreed to seek to populate the parts of the template that are pertinent to their project with a view to getting some indicative commitment information by the end of February 2016 (note that this report represents the position on 24 February 2016).

➤ Next Steps

A further, more detailed, report which will include details of the indicative commitments made by individual projects, will be presented to the April meeting of this Board.

Agenda Item 10

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Agenda Item 11

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Agenda Item 12

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Agenda Item 13

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LEP – Sub Committee

Growth Deal Management Board

Private and Confidential: No

Wednesday 9 March 2016

Building Research Establishment Environmental Assessment Methodology (BREEAM)

Report Authors:

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Executive Summary

It has become apparent that, within the suite of Growth Deal projects, there is disparity in relation to BREEAM requirements placed upon individual schemes. The contractual obligation placed upon some schemes to achieve BREEAM accreditation incurs considerable time pressures and also attracts significant financial costs (upto £500,000 per project).

There is a need to address the current position and associated anomalies in order to achieve a standardised approach across Growth Deal projects. The desired standardisation should ensure that all projects build to an agreed standard, gain independent sign-off of that construction standard at reasonable cost – but not to insist on very costly, but unnecessary, accreditation

Recommendation

The Growth Deal Management Board is invited to:

1. Receive, consider and comment upon the content of this report
2. Endorse the proposed "next steps" outlined within the report
3. Confirm that, going forward, Growth Fund Agreements and Memorandums of Understanding for all Growth Deal projects (including skills projects) will not insist on BREEAM accreditation



Background and Advice

The Growth Deal programme has evolved with a range of projects being 'granted funding' from various boards using different criteria. This has led to a range of build qualities being required within the approvals process, and subsequently reflected within Growth Fund Agreements.

Skills Capital bids have insisted on BREEAM excellent accreditation for new build and BREEAM very good accreditation for refurbishments, whilst competitive growth deal bids do not insist on any accreditation above building regulations.

The current position is that there is a total disparity across Growth Deal projects in terms of BREEAM requirements, which needs to be addressed in order to achieve a standardised, equitable, approach.

Experience

During project monitoring sessions with individual projects it has been reported that whilst the cost of accreditation is between £300k – £500k per project the accreditation doesn't add anything to the project in terms of achieving any outcomes.

As a result the Value for Money of insisting on accreditation has been questioned.

Feedback has also challenged the equity of placing requirements on some, but not all, projects to achieve BREEAM accreditation.

The requirement to gain accreditation and the associated cost - hence the need to build to the agreed standard, gain independent sign-off of that construction standard at reasonable cost, but not to require accreditation at up to £500k

Initial Research

A preliminary meeting was convened with LCC Building and Design Team in order to understand more about BREEAM and to determine the approach to BREEAM taken by Lancashire County Council (LCC).

What emerged is that:

- BREEAM standards are a range of environmental benchmarks that include items that are already covered by building regulations, Growth Fund Agreement metric requirements and social value requirements, (considerate contractor schemes etc.)
- LCC Building and Design Team do not aim for BREEAM accreditation within a build, but build to the spirit of BREEAM where appropriate.



It's recognised that the expert opinion from LCC needs to be supplemented, and not wholly relied on. On that basis an approach will be made to Jim Carter (LEP Director) and Keppie Massey (the firm of surveyors that are used for City Deal) in order to gain impartial and independent views/opinions.

Proposed Next Steps

1. Further work is undertaken with LCC Building Design Team and LCC Estates Team in order to:
 - to develop a form of words to include in the standard Growth Fund Agreement that will ensure quality robust buildings are funded by public money but projects remain Value for Money.
 - to compare growth deal priorities with BREEAM priorities and give advice where the two standards conflict.
2. Activity is undertaken, by the Programme Office, to create a form of words for inclusion in Growth Fund Agreements/Memorandums of Understanding that reflects that (as now) an employer's agent to certify standard of build standards or GDMB reserve the right to insist on inspection of designs and / or completed buildings by an independent assessor at the projects sponsors costs .

