

Lancashire Enterprise Partnership Limited Board

Minutes of the Meeting held on Tuesday, 26th June, 2018 at 4.30 pm at the Committee Room 'D' (The Henry Bolingbroke Room) - County Hall, Preston

Present

Edwin Booth (Chairman)

Jim Carter
Graham Cowley
Ann Dean
Liam Finnigan
Councillor Ken Hind

Mark Rawstron
Councillor Phil Riley
Professor Mark Smith
David Taylor
Claire Whelan

In Attendance

Jo Ainsworth, Specialist Advisor Finance, Lancashire County Council
Paul Evans, Assistant Director, Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy
Councillor Mary Green, Leader, South Ribble Borough Council
County Councillor Michael Green, Cabinet Member, Lancashire County Council
Martin Kelly, Director of Economic Development and Planning, Lancashire County Council
Rachel McQueen, Chief Executive, Marketing Lancashire
Andy Milroy, Senior Democratic Services Officer, Lancashire County Council
Kathryn Molloy, Head of Service LEP Coordination, Lancashire County Council
Angie Ridgwell, Chief Executive and Director of Resources, Lancashire County Council
Laura Sales, Company Secretary
Alison Schmid, Service Lead, Strategy and Funding, Blackburn with Darwen Borough Council
Councillor Ivan Taylor, Cabinet Member, Blackpool Council
Andy Walker, Head of Service Business Growth, Lancashire County Council
Jonathan Dixon, Blue Sky (in part)

1. Welcome and Apologies for Absence

The Chair, Edwin Booth, welcomed all to the meeting. Apologies were received from County Councillor Geoff Driver, Councillor Simon Blackburn, Mike Blackburn and Khalid Saifullah.

2. Minutes of the meeting held on 24th April 2018

Resolved: That the minutes of the meeting held on 24th April 2018 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

3. Matters Arising

None

4. Declaration of Interests

Councillor Phil Riley declared an interest in Agenda Item 7 – Growth Deal Funding Approval and Update Report, as a Blackburn with Darwen Borough Councillor his authority had submitted the Furthergate Scheme for consideration. It was agreed that Councillor Riley could remain present for the item but would not take part in voting on the item.

5. Lancashire's Innovation Priorities and UKRI Opportunities

Professor Mark Smith, LEP Director and Vice-Chancellor Lancaster University, provided a presentation to the Board regarding Lancashire's Innovation Priorities and UK Research and Innovation.

Mark highlighted that that the presentation was related to minute item 6 from the last meeting – Strategic Economic Plan Refresh and was part of the development of the refreshed plan.

It was reported that UK Research and Innovation (UKRI) was launched in April 2018 and is the new funding organisation for research and innovation in the UK.

It brings together the seven UK research councils, Innovate UK and a new organisation, Research England, all working closely with its partner organisations in the devolved administrations.

There is over £6bn in combined budget per year for investment in research and innovation. The objectives of UKRI are split into three overlapping categories – Knowledge, Society and Economy to create an outstanding organisation that ensures the UK maintains its world leading position in research and innovation.

The presentation also highlighted the Industrial Strategy Challenge Fund which aims to bring together the UK's world leading research base with business to meet the major industrial and societal challenges of our time, and, UKRI Strength in Place Fund which aims to support collaborative programmes based on research and innovation excellence in places right across the UK.

Whilst not a pre-requisite for applicants to have previously completed an Science and Innovation Audit (SIA) and the Strength in Place Fund is not a follow on fund for SIA support, SIA data is seen as part of the evidence that consortia may draw upon, dependent on the economic geography making the bid.

With regard to flexible economic geography consortia are expected to self-determine the spatial geography that projects will focus on.

The scope of activities was highlighted and what was considered to be in / out of scope.

In terms of timescales, successful projects will be fully funded from 2019/20, the Expression of Interest (EOI) closing date for applications is 25th July 2018. Full stage successful EOIs will receive seed corn funding (£50k) to develop full stage bids from mid-October 2018. Successful full stage projects are expected to be announced early Summer 2019.

An update was also provided on the Lancashire and Sheffield City Region Science and Innovation Audit. This included recommendations to build on success, scale up and new opportunities. It was noted that between Sheffield City Region and Lancashire lie the components required to equip the UK to deliver the vision of the 4th industrial revolution.

Resolved: The Lancashire Enterprise Partnership Board received, noted and endorsed the presentation regarding Lancashire's Innovation Priorities and UKRI Opportunities.

6. LEP Governance and Committees Decisions Report

Andy Milroy, Senior Democratic Services Officer, Lancashire County Council presented a report (circulated) which provided the LEP Board with LEP Governance and recent Committee meeting updates.

Resolved: The Lancashire Enterprise Partnership Board

- (i) Noted the updates provided in the report in relation to Governance and the Committees of the LEP.
- (ii) Approved the revised Terms of Reference for the LEP Performance Committee as attached at Appendix 'A'; and
- (iii) Approved the revised Terms of Reference for the LEP Skills and Employment Board attached at Appendix 'B' and authorised Dr Michele Lawty-Jones, Director of the Lancashire Skills Hub and Martin Kelly, Director of Economic Development and Planning, to develop an appropriate selection process to identify a Head Teacher with a recommended appointment them submitted to the LEP Board for approval.

7. Growth Deal Funding Approval and Update Report

Kathryn Molloy, Head of LEP Co-ordination, Lancashire County Council presented a report (circulated) which contained Growth Deal Funding updates and items for approval.

Resolved: The Lancashire Enterprise Partnership Board

- (i) Approved a maximum funding allocation of £3.44m to the Pennine Gateways – Furthergate Link Road scheme; and
- (ii) Approved the Growth Deal reporting submission to the Cities and Local Growth Unit for Quarter 4 (January to March) 2017/18 Quarterly Reporting Summary Dashboard as set out as Appendix 'A'.

8. Marketing and Communications Activity Update Report

Kathryn Molloy presented a report (circulated) which provided the Board with an update on Marketing and Communications Activity since the last Board meeting.

The Board was reminded that Marketing Lancashire has been commissioned by the LEP to undertake a number of marketing and communication activities to promote the LEP. The new Chief Executive of Marketing Lancashire – Rachel McQueen – was in attendance and was introduced to the Board.

Resolved: The Lancashire Enterprise Partnership Board noted the activity undertaken and endorsed the forthcoming PR Opportunities as presented.

9. SEP Refresh

Martin Kelly, Director of Economic Development and Planning, Lancashire County Council, gave an oral update on the Strategic Economic Plan (SEP) refresh.

It was reported that Lancashire Leaders has arranged to meet on 24th July to discuss co-production of the Plan with a view to reviewing priorities. Work will continue with Lancashire Leaders to shape the SEP with a further update on progress provided at the next LEP Board meeting.

Resolved: The Lancashire Enterprise Partnership Board noted the Strategic Economic Plan update and endorsed the co-production of the plan with Lancashire Leaders.

10. Lancashire Leaders - Lancashire Combined Authority Developments Update

Angie Ridgwell, Chief Executive and Director of Resources, Lancashire County Council presented a report (circulated) which provided an update on Lancashire Combined Authority Developments.

It was noted that Lancashire Leaders had written to the Secretary of State in April 2018 updating on progress and seeking clarification on a number of matters.

Lancashire Leaders wish to create a model that work for all in Lancashire and enter into discussions with ministers on areas of commonality.

Resolved: The Lancashire Enterprise Partnership noted the report and agreed to continue to support Lancashire Leaders as appropriate with regard to Lancashire Combined Authority developments.

11. Any Other Business

Kathryn Molloy provided an update on Cultural Funding and how Lancashire should be positioned, it was noted that work will be undertaken with Marketing Lancashire to take this forward with further updates provided to the LEP Board in due course.

Edwin Booth provided an update on a recent Council of LEP Chairs meeting with the Prime Minister.

12. Date of Next Meeting and Proposed Programme of Meetings for 2019

It was noted that the next LEP Board meeting was scheduled to take place on Tuesday 6th November 2018, 4:30pm at County Hall, Preston.

In addition, the Board approved the programme of meetings for 2019 as follows:

Tuesday 22nd January 2019 – 4.30pm
Tuesday 30th April 2019 – 4.30pm
Tuesday 25th June 2019 – 4.30pm
Tuesday 12th November 2019 – 4.30pm

All meetings to be held at County Hall, Preston.

Part II (Private and Confidential)

At this point the LEP Board approved that the meeting move into Part II, Private and Confidential, to consider the remaining report as it contained information defined as confidential or exempt in accordance with the relevant paragraph of Part I to schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972 as set out in the report. It was considered that in all the circumstances of the case the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighed the public interest in disclosing the information.

13. Establishment of an Urban Development Fund for Lancashire - Update Report

Kathryn Molloy and Jonathan Dixon, Blue Sky, presented a report (circulated) and gave a presentation regarding the Establishment of an Urban Development Fund for Lancashire.

Resolved: Following consideration of the report and presentation, in Part II (Private and Confidential) the LEP Board:

- (i) Considered and comment on the contents of this report, including the proposed principles of the Urban Development Fund.
- (ii) Approved Option 2 as the preferred option for delivery of an Urban Development Fund in Lancashire based on the findings of the financial model prepared by Blue Sky and presented to the Board at this meeting.
- (iii) Considered and approved the proposal to allocate a proportion of the LEP's Growing Places Investment Fund capital to support the management of the Urban Development Fund whilst capital and interest is repaid.
- (iv) Delegated authority to the LEP's Executive Committee to undertake further work to establish an Urban Development Fund, and, agreed to appoint LEP Director Mark Rawstron to support Lancashire County Council and LEP officers in discussions with the county council as proposed applicant and Entrusted Entity, including the submission of an application form to MHCLG following discussions with the county council, subject to a positive outcome of the meeting of the county council's Cabinet on 9 August 2018; and
- (v) Agreed to receive future updates on the progress made in establishing an Urban Development Fund for Lancashire.

Jonathan Dixon left the meeting at this point.

14. Lancashire Enterprise Partnership Financial Outturn Position 2017-18 and Draft Operational Budget 2018-19

Kathryn Molloy presented a report (circulated) regarding the Lancashire Enterprise Partnership Financial Outturn Position for 2017/18 and Draft Operational Budget for 2018/19.

Resolved: Following consideration of the report, in Part II (Private and Confidential) the LEP Board:

- (i) Noted the contents of the report including the outturn position of the 2017/18 Operational Budget.
- (ii) Considered and approved the final draft LEP Operational Budget for 2018/19; and
- (iii) Noted the balance statement for the LEP's Growing Places Investment Fund.