

LEP - Business Support Management Board

**Minutes of the Meeting held on Thursday, 3rd October, 2019 at 10.30 am
at the Committee Room 'C' - The Duke of Lancaster Room, County Hall,
Preston**

Present

Miranda Barker
Paul Foster
Neil McMillan

Sue Smith
Stuart Thompson
Alan Welsh

In Attendance

Andrew Leeming, Boost Programme Manager – Business Growth, Lancashire County Council

Martin Kelly, Director of Growth and Development, Blackburn with Darwen Borough Council

Andy Walker, Head of Business Growth, Lancashire County Council

Holly Tween, Democratic Services Officer (Companies), Lancashire County Council

1. Welcome and Apologies for Absence

The Chair welcomed all in attendance.

Apologies had been received from Mike Blackburn, Gillian Bardin, Frank McKenna and Paul Evans.

Neil McMillan attended on behalf of Gillian Bardin.

2. Declaration of Interests

None.

3. Minutes of the meeting held on 9 May 2019

Resolved: that the minutes of the meeting held on 9 May 2019 be confirmed as an accurate record and signed by the Chair.

4. Matters Arising

None.

5. Local Industrial Strategy

Andy Walker, Head of Service Business Growth, Lancashire County Council, gave a presentation outlining the work on the development of the Local Industrial Strategy to date, and highlighted some key messages from the evidence base.

Committee members were invited to comment and ask questions, which would be referred to the Lancashire Enterprise Partnership Board.

The questions and comments are summarised below.

1. How will we support growth in long-tail productivity, and not just improve areas which are already performing?
2. How do we plan to remain competitive in sectors in which we are already performing well?
3. Is there any evidence to explain Lancashire's underperformance in the Scale-up of businesses from £1-2m to £3m+?
4. Will there still be a reasonable level of sector-focussed support?
5. There should be clear numerical targets in the table to measure success
6. What is the process to take this work forward between now and December, and what are the timescales for the next stages of this work?
7. What do other LISs look like; how do we ensure we are promoting Lancashire's unique selling points?
8. There was an understanding that Higher Education institutions were responding collectively, not individually – is this the case?
9. There needs to be a wider understanding of cross-cutting issues across the different themes e.g. broadband provision, infrastructure, transport
10. There is a need to understand how Scale-ups / Start-ups sit in the wider firmaments of the LEP propositions
11. Is there any evidence to suggest a cause for the anomalous high level of entrepreneurship in East Lancashire, where there is a concentration of high performing businesses

Resolved:

1. That the questions and comments be circulated to committee members, before being referred to the Lancashire Enterprise Partnership Board

2. That the evidence base and longlist propositions on the business environment documents be circulated electronically to Committee members
3. That the Head of Service Business Growth circulate a precis of the longlist propositions for the other priority strands in the Local Industrial Strategy
4. That a date be sought in November for a further Committee meeting

6. Any Other Business

Miranda Barker referred to the Greater Manchester Clean Air Plan Overview, and highlighted its potential impact on Lancashire. Members were directed to the website and encouraged to raise awareness.

Stuart Thompson referred committee members to the Apprenticeships in England Review and were encouraged to complete and distribute the questionnaire, which would be circulated to members.

7. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting was scheduled for 10.30am on 17 December 2019 in Committee Room B, County Hall, Preston.

A further meeting date would be sought for mid November.