**Lancashire Enterprise Partnership Limited**

**Private and Confidential: NO**

Tuesday, 31 January 2017

**LEP Governance and Committees Decisions Report**

**(Appendices 'A', 'B' and 'C' refer)**

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| **Executive Summary** This report extracts the key items considered by each of the Lancashire Enterprise Partnership (LEP) Board Sub-Committees at their recent meetings, and where applicable, and if not considered elsewhere on the Board's main agenda, contains decisions referred to the Board by the Sub-Committees for approval.  In relation to LEP Governance matters this report also contains the NIL dormant company accounts for the year ending 30th September 2016 for Board approval. **Recommendation** The LEP Board is asked to:   1. Note the updates provided in this report in relation to the Committees of the LEP. 2. Approve the accounts and financial statements for the period ending September 2015 as set out at Appendices 'A' and 'B', and; 3. Approve the revised Terms of Reference for the Growth Deal Management Board, and in doing so agree that Mick Allen and Katherine O'Connor from BEIS be formally appointed as Observers as set out at Appendix 'C'. |

**Background and Advice**

The Lancashire Enterprise Partnership Board (LEP) approved a LEP Assurance Framework on 17th March 2015 which was subsequently submitted to Government as final in April 2015. The Assurance Framework is made publically available on the LEP website: <http://www.lancashirelep.co.uk/about-us/about-the-lep.aspx>

The Assurance Framework ensures that the LEP records decisions taken by the LEP and its Committees in an open and transparent way. The purpose is to ensure that arrangements are in place enabling effective and meaningful engagement of local partners and the public, and that those arrangements operate transparently with LEP decisions capable of being independently scrutinised.

Since the implementation of the LEP Assurance Framework, the LEP and its Committees publish their agendas and minutes on the LEP website. In order to ensure the LEPs decision making is open and transparent in relation to the Committees this report presents updates from each of the Committees and, where applicable, contains decisions that are outside of the Committees powers and require referral to the LEP Board for approval.

**Governance Updates**

**Lancashire Enterprise Partnership – Approval of Dormant Accounts – Year Ending 30th September 2016 (Appendices 'A' and 'B' refer)**

The Lancashire Enterprise Partnership (LEP) is a Company Limited by Guarantee and as such is subject to the Companies Act 2006 with regard to the filing of accounts and annual returns. The LEP does not conduct financial transactions itself as Lancashire County Council carries out this function, on behalf of the LEP, as the Accountable Body.

Therefore the LEP's accounts are in essence dormant, however the company is required to file NIL accounts on an annual basis. This report requests Board approval to the attached NIL accounts and financial statements (Appendices 'A' and 'B' refer) for the period ending September 2016 in order that they can be filed in line with statutory requirements.

**Updates from recent LEP Committee Meetings**

**1. Executive Committee**

**Decision taken – 01 November 2016**

The LEP Executive Committee approved an alteration to the Waterfall Payment Structure for the Lunesdie East Growing Places Investment.

**2. Transport for Lancashire Committee**

The Transport for Lancashire Committee, Chaired by CC Mein, met on 02 November 2016, and considered the following:

* The approach and selection criteria for defining a Lancashire Key Route Network as set out in the report was agreed
* An update on Transport for the North
* An update on the District of Lancaster Highways and Transport Masterplan

Full agendas and minutes for Transport for Lancashire meetings can be accessed here: <http://council.lancashire.gov.uk/ieListMeetings.aspx?CommitteeId=956>

**3. City Deal Executive and Stewardship Board**

The City Deal Executive and Stewardship Board, Chaired by Jim Carter (Executive) and Danielle Gillespie (Stewardship Board) met on 18 November 2016, and, informally on 09 January 2017.

**Executive and Stewardship Board Meeting – 18 November 2016**

The Executive and Stewardship Board considered the following:

* Jean Hunter, CEO at South Ribble Borough Council, was welcomed to the Board.
* A report on the Preston City Centre Living Strategy presented by Cushman and Wakefield. The Committee received and commented.
* An update on the HCA Business and Disposal plan.
* Reallocation of the £80,000 currently identified for the Blackpool Road Section of the Guild Wheel to public realm works in Cannon Street Works instead, in order to enable the scheme to be completed with the Blackpool Road improvement scheme to be picked up as part of the longer term reinstatement works was agreed.
* A report on the Resources Review. Agreed that a report on the three phases of delivery of the Resources Review be presented to the January meeting.
* That, given the extensive experience of the County Council City Deal Highways Team in successfully delivering cycling improvement projects, and the potential risks on cost and delivery schedule of a tendered contract, the City Deal Executive and Stewardship Board approve the Tom Benson Way Cycling Scheme being delivered through the City Deal Highways Team.
* An update on the Cuerden Strategic Development Site.
* An update on the Markets Quarter City Centre Developments, considered in Part II, and agreed in principle to support the development through the City Deal mechanisms in the event that it requires public sector support to assist delivery. It was also requested, in line with the City Deal Agreement and the Terms of Reference of the Stewardship Board, that the Stewardship Board review appropriate development mechanisms and present recommendations to the Executive as these come forward.
* An update on the Preston Housing Zone, considered in Part II, was noted and approval given for the development of a bid for additional Capacity Funding from the HCA to support the Preston Housing Zone initiative.

**Executive and Stewardship Board Informal Meeting – 09 January 2017**

The Executive and Stewardship Board met informally on 9th January 2017 to consider a marketing strategy for the City Deal and further develop the strategy with assistance from the LEP's marketing partners Marketing Lancashire and Freshfields.

Full agendas and minutes for the Combined City Deal meetings can be accessed

here: <http://council.lancashire.gov.uk/ieListMeetings.aspx?CommitteeID=1072>

**4. Growth Deal Management Board**

The Growth Deal Management Board, Chaired by Graham Cowley, met on 07 December 2016 and considered the following:

* An update on the Programme Evaluation, considered in Part II, presented by Warwick Economics and Development.
* An update on the Grant Funding Agreement for the Rawtenstall Development Zone, considered in Part II, and agreed to continue discussions regarding revised outputs with the option to reappraise if necessary
* An update on the Lancaster Health Innovation Campus, considered under Part II
* An update on the programme and projects, considered under Part II, and agreed actions on a number of projects
* An update on projects requesting additional funding, considered under Part II. It was agreed that a paper on skills capital and the Area Based Review be brought to the next meeting
* An update on Social Value
* That Mick Allen and Katherine O'Connor from the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS) should be added to the committee formally as observers.
* The 2017 meeting programme. The group discussed a reduced programme but agreed that they would not reduce the meeting frequency

The reports and minutes for Growth Deal Management Board meetings can be accessed here:

<http://council.lancashire.gov.uk/ieListMeetings.aspx?CommitteeID=1218>

**5. Enterprise Zone Governance Committee**

The last meeting of the Enterprise Zone Governance Committee, Chaired by Edwin Booth, met on 26 September 2016. The next meeting will be held on 06 March 2017.

However, a written resolution was agreed on 02 November 2016 that the MOU for Blackpool Airport EZ and Hillhouse International EZ would be amended to include the following commentary: "An agreed strategic marketing approach is being developed in conjunction with Marketing Lancashire, Lancashire Enterprise Partnership, Blackpool Fylde and Wyre Economic Development Company, relevant local authority stakeholders and private sector development partners. This approach will be in place by March 2017 and supported by an agreed enquiry handling protocol‘’.

Full agendas and minutes for the Enterprise Zone Governance Committee meetings can be accessed here:

<http://council.lancashire.gov.uk/ieListMeetings.aspx?CommitteeID=1171>

**6. Lancashire Skills and Employment Board**

The Skills and Employment Board, Chaired by Amanda Melton, met on 30 November 2016, and again on 11 January 2017.

**Board meeting held on 30 November 2016**

The Board considered the following:

* An update explaining that £2,000 would be contributed to the Construction Industry Training Board study in relation to skills shortages across Lancashire in construction and the supply of relevant provision; the study will broaden the report which focused on the City Deal skills and employment implications
* An update stating that the Government had announced £60 million funding targeting ten opportunity areas aiming at helping local children get the best start in life. Blackpool had been identified as an opportunity area and Blackpool Council had invited Graham Cowley, Chair of the Growth Deal Management Board and LEP Board member, to Chair their Partnership Board in relation to the Opportunity Fund.
* An update that the SFA had written to the ESIF Committee to request support to extend the three opt-in contracts for four months to the end of July 2018. The SFA had also asked to vary the Memorandum of Understanding between the SFA and the LEP to reduce the level of co-finance. This freed up the monies currently allocated to the SFA opt-in (£13.67m).
* A progress report on Digital Advantage
* A presentation on Adult Learning in Lancashire
* An update on the Area Based Review
* An update on the Combined Authority
* A presentation on the ESF Moving On project from Preston's College reporting performance to-date and risks

**Board meeting held on 11 January 2017**

The Board considered the following:

* An update on the ESIF programme. The Committee discussed the remainder of the funding to be allocated and priorities, and requested that proposals be brought to the next meeting
* Proposals regarding the Skills Funding Agency Opt-in Capacity Building and Engagement Activity plans, including activity and funding allocations were agreed
* An update on the Area Based Review and agreement of evolving recommendations
* The 2017 meeting programme. The Committee agreed to reduce the programme to four formal meetings per year, but to keep the additional meetings in the diary in case formal decisions are required, and if not, hold informal workshops in their place.

The Skills and Employment Board also held a strategic planning session on the same day as the 11th January 2017 Board meeting at Runshaw College, which involved colleagues from the shadow Combined Authority. The session enabled a review of achievements to-date, the policy environment and evolving priorities, taking into consideration the proposed collaborative approach emerging between the LEP and the Combined Authority in relation to skills and employment.

Full agendas and minutes for the Lancashire Skills Board meetings can be accessed here: <http://council.lancashire.gov.uk/ieListMeetings.aspx?CommitteeID=1011>

**7. Performance Committee**

A meeting of the Performance Committee, Chaired by Richard Evans, met on 16 January 2017.

**Performance Committee meeting held on 16 January 2017**

The purpose of the meeting was to consider the Business and Operation

Plan, considered in Part II, and submit a draft to the LEP Board for approval. This item is to be considered under a separate item on this agenda.

Full agendas and minutes for the Performance Committee meetings can be accessed here:

<http://council.lancashire.gov.uk/ieListMeetings.aspx?CommitteeID=1216>

**8. Business Support Management Board**

The Business Support Management Board, Chaired by Mike Blackburn, met on 19 January 2017.

The Board considered the following:

* A report on the ESF Workforce Training Programme
* A report on ERDF Funded Business Support Projects in Lancashire
* A report on provisions to support Scale-Up Businesses
* A report on the suggested work programme for 2017

Full agendas and minutes for the Business Support Management Board meetings can be accessed here:

<http://council.lancashire.gov.uk/ieListMeetings.aspx?CommitteeID=1220>