



## Lancashire Enterprise Partnership Limited

**Private and Confidential: NO**

Tuesday, 7 November 2017

### LEP Governance and Committees Decisions Report

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#### Executive Summary

This report extracts the key items considered by each of the Lancashire Enterprise Partnership (LEP) Board 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 Committees for approval.

The report also summarises the findings of the recent 'Review of Local Enterprise Partnership Governance and Transparency' led by Mary Ney (attached at Appendix 'A') with details of the LEP's upcoming 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Conversation with Government.

#### Recommendation

The LEP Board is asked to:

- (i) Note the updates provided in this report in relation to the Committees of the LEP.
- (ii) Note the 'Review of Local Enterprise Partnership Governance and Transparency' Government Review attached at Appendix 'A', and
- (iii) Note that the LEP's 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Conversation will take place on 27 November 2017.

#### Background and Advice

The Lancashire Enterprise Partnership Board (LEP) approved the LEP's first Assurance Framework on 17<sup>th</sup> March 2015 which was subsequently submitted to Government as final in April 2015. The LEP's Assurance Framework has subsequently been updated to reflect any changes to the LEP's governance arrangements and also to reflect updated national guidance. 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 LEP's 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**

Following the resignations of Mike Damms and Malcolm McVicar some vacancies exist at Director and Committee level. An additional report, in the Part II section of this agenda is provided in relation to these vacancies.

## **Updates from recent LEP Committee Meetings**

### **1. Executive Committee**

No decisions had been taken by the Executive Committee since the last LEP Board meeting.

### **2. Transport for Lancashire Committee**

The Transport for Lancashire Committee had not met since the last LEP Board meeting.

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 met on 18 September and considered the following:

- A presentation from Mott MacDonald regarding the Preston City Centre Transport plan
- A report on the 2017-20 HCA Business and Disposal Plan, approved the HCA's current and future investment plan into the City Deal and noted the quarterly monitoring progress update
- Received an update on the delivery of infrastructure schemes in quarter 1
- Approved the transfer of £44k from the unallocated element of the Transport Corridor line into the Fishergate Central Gateway project
- Received an update on the Preston Western Distributor and East West Link Road schemes



- Approved a formal tender process to be undertaken for the delivery of the Broughton Village/A6 Improvement Works

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 11 October 2017 and considered the following:

- A presentation from Warwick Economics & Development on the first interim evaluation report
- Approved the revised Communications Protocol
- Approved, subject to conditions, to recommend to the LEP funding of up to £15m for the Advanced Manufacturing Research Centre North West (AMRC NW) project
- Received an update on progress of M55 Link Road, Broughton Bypass, Preston Western Distributor and BHVA projects
- Approved amendments to the Core Grant Funding Agreement
- Considered the social value dashboard and toolkit

One project is recommended to the LEP Board for approval:

- That funding approval of up to £15m for the AMRC NW project be recommended to the LEP Board, subject to the following considerations:
  - Confirmation of ESIF Revenue funding to enable the project to be operational;
  - Establishment of a governance structure which provides for the LEP to be a long-term strategic partner with the AMRC;
  - Establishment of formal partnerships between AMRC NW and Lancashire HE providers;
  - Procurement of the scheme to be shared with Lancashire County Council, as Accountable Body for the LEP, to ensure value for money and deliverability with any cost overruns to be met by the scheme sponsor; and
  - Conclusion of a land agreement between Lancashire County Council and Sheffield University in respect of land at the Samlesbury Aerospace Enterprise Zone.

The LEP Board should also note that it was resolved to form a small Task Group of the Growth Deal Management Board to further clarify the focus and financial sustainability of this strategic initiative.

There is a separate report regarding the Growth Deal Programme and Project Funding approval on this agenda.

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 14<sup>th</sup> June 2017, and considered the following:

- Received and gave feedback on a presentation from Marketing Lancashire and Richard Barber on the proposed branding and marketing for the Lancashire Advanced Manufacturing & Energy Cluster
- Received updates on the Blackpool Airport EZ, the Hillhouse International Technology EZ, the Samlesbury Aerospace EZ and the Warton Aviation EZ

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 18 October 2017 and considered the following:

- A presentation from the Construction Industry Training Board regarding the LEP Construction Labour and Skills research
- A presentation from the Chair of the BBL School Improvement Board on the Board's work and impact
- A report on the Area Based Review, including recommendations from the Implementation Group
- An update on the ESF ESFA projects

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**

The Performance Committee, Chaired by Richard Evans, met on 20 September 2017, and considered the following:

- The LEP Operational budget
- A presentation on Marketing Lancashire's remit, objectives and funding

The Committee then held an informal workshop to discuss income generation.

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, was held on 11 October 2017 and considered the following:

- A presentation from Digital Lancashire on the work being done with key sectors
- A report regarding the Strategic Economic Plan – Evidence Base
- Co-ordination of Public Funded Business Support in Lancashire

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

<http://council.lancashire.gov.uk/ieListMeetings.aspx?CommitteeID=122>

### **Review of Local Enterprise Partnerships**

In April, Mary Ney (Non-Executive Director at DCLG) was asked to undertake an informal review of Local Enterprise Partnerships to consider further improvements in their governance. The findings of the six-week review, which are attached at Appendix 'A', were published on the 26 October and focus on areas of Culture and Accountability, Structure and Decision-Making, Conflicts of Interest and Government Oversight and Enforcement.

The current practice of the Lancashire Enterprise Partnership matches or exceeds the key benchmarks identified by the Ney Review. However, further governance improvements will be identified as part of the annual review of our current Assurance Framework.

The Board is also informed that Ministers, Jake Berry MP and Margot James MP, on behalf of Government, have written to all LEP Chairs advising them that they will be bringing forward proposals regarding the future of LEPs following the pledge in the Conservative Manifesto to explore ways of putting LEPs on a more consistent footing legally, whilst still giving LEPs the freedom and flexibility to attract private sector talent to their Boards. Further information is expected in the coming weeks.

Finally, the Board is also made aware that the LEP's 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Conversation will be held with the Department for Business Energy and Industrial Strategy on the 27 November. The Chair will attend the session in Manchester along with the Chairs of the LEP's Performance Committee and Growth Deal Management Board supported by LCC officers and the County Council's S151 officer.