

Lancashire Enterprise Partnership Limited Board

Minutes of the Meeting held on Tuesday, 24th April, 2018 at 4.30 pm at the Committee Room 'D' (The Henry Bolingbroke Room) - County Hall, Preston

Present

Edwin Booth (Chairman)

Mike Blackburn	Mick Gornall
Jim Carter	Councillor Peter Mullineaux
Graham Cowley	Mark Rawstron
Ann Dean	Councillor Phil Riley
County Councillor Geoff Driver CBE	Khalid Saifullah
Liam Finnigan	Professor Mark Smith
Dennis Mendoros	Councillor Mark Townsend

In Attendance

Jo Ainsworth, Specialist Advisor Finance, Lancashire County Council
Andrew Good, Head of Service Financial Management, Lancashire County Council
County Councillor Michael Green, Cabinet Member, Lancashire County Council
Martin Kelly, Director of Economic Development and Planning, Lancashire County Council
Heather McManus, Chief Executive, South Ribble Borough Council
Josh Mynott, Democratic and Member Services Manager, Lancashire County Council
Kathryn Molloy, Head of Service LEP Coordination, Lancashire County Council
Katherine O'Connor, Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy
Laura Sales, Company Secretary
Alison Schmid, Service Lead, Strategy and Funding, Blackburn with Darwen Council
Councillor Ivan Taylor, Cabinet Member, Blackpool Council

1. Welcome and Apologies for Absence

The Chair, Edwin Booth, welcomed all to the meeting. Apologies were received from Councillor Simon Blackburn, David Holmes and David Taylor.

2. Minutes of the meeting held on 30th January 2018

Resolved: That the minutes of the meeting held on 30 January 2018 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

3. Matters Arising

Kathryn Molloy, Head of LEP Co-ordination, Lancashire County Council, provided an update on item 11 on the minutes, the proposed development of a Lancashire Urban Development Fund (UDF). It was confirmed that a consultancy firm had been appointed to support the development of the UDF, and that a further update will be made to the next Board meeting.

4. Declaration of Interests

Councillor Mark Townsend declared an interest in Item 8 - Growth Deal Funding Approval and Update report as Leader of Burnley Borough Council.

5. LEP Governance and Committees Decisions Report

Laura Sales, Director of Corporate Services, Lancashire County Council, and Company Secretary, presented an update on various governance issues, including the annual refresh of the Assurance Framework, the recruitment process for three new Directors, and the appointment of Directors to various committees.

In relation to the Assurance Framework, it was highlighted that the most notable change was the addition of an Allowance Scheme. The attention of the Board was also drawn to the importance of maintaining an up to date register of interests, including property interests.

The Board agreed that, in recruiting new directors, emphasis should particularly be laid on the following key areas of skills and knowledge to enhance the capacity and effectiveness of the Board:

- SMEs
- Skills and Technical Education
- Strategic Marketing

Expressions of interest were received from Board members to fill vacancies on a number of committees, as follows:

- Executive Committee (1 vacancy) – Councillor Phil Riley
- Transport for Lancashire Committee (Vice Chair's Nominee) (1 vacancy) – Khalid Saifullah, Ann Dean
- Enterprise Zone Governance committee (1 vacancy) – Mark Rawstron

It was agreed that these nominations would be considered and confirmed in due course.

Martin Kelly, Director of Economic Development and Planning, Lancashire County Council, provided an update on the recent "Deep Dive" review undertaken by government.

Resolved: That:

- i. the updates provided in this report in relation to the Committees of the LEP be noted.
- ii. the refreshed LEP Assurance Framework for 2018/19 presented be approved.
- iii. the LEP's Executive Committee be authorised to progress the search and recruitment process for up to three new Directors, as outlined in this report, under the direction of the Company Secretary.
- iv. the expressions of interest received from Directors to fill the Committee vacancies as outlined in the report be noted, with appointments to be confirmed by the Executive Committee.

6. Strategic Economic Plan Refresh

Martin Kelly, Director of Economic Development and Planning, Lancashire County Council, provided an update on the refresh of the LEPs Strategic Economic Plan (SEP) and the development of the Lancashire Industrial Strategy.

The Board acknowledged the opportunities presented in the SEP refresh in terms of reflecting and influencing Government strategy in this area. The Board also recognised the value on engagement with public sector partners in the development of the SEP, especially in delivering inclusive growth.

It was confirmed that the aim was to bring regular reports updating on progress, with a view to finalising the SEP and Industrial Strategy by December 2018.

Resolved: That

- i. the refresh of the Strategic Economic Plan, as set out in this report be approved.
- ii. a refreshed Strategic Economic Plan be developed to form the basis of a Local Industrial Strategy for Lancashire.
- iii. Lancashire's local authority leaders be engaged in the refresh of the Strategic Economic Plan and the development of the Lancashire Industrial Strategy, with a focus on developing inclusive growth and strategic place based priorities.

7. Operational Budget 2017/18 and 2018/19 Update Report

Kathryn Molloy, Head of LEP Co-ordination, Lancashire County Council, provided an update on the LEP's operational budget for 2017/18 and 2018/19.

Resolved: That:

- i. the Performance Committee be authorised to consider and agree the outturn position for the LEP's 2017/18 Operational Budget and prepare the LEP's final Operational Budget for 2018/19.
- ii. the outturn position for the LEP's 2017/18 Operational Budget and the proposed final Operational Budget for 2018/19 be received at the next meeting in June.
- iii. the Head of Service LEP Coordination and Development be authorised to prepare the LEP's Annual Report for 2017/18 under the guidance of the Performance Committee.
- iv. the balance statement of the LEP's Growing Places Investment Fund be noted.

8. Growth Deal Funding Approval and Update Report

Kathryn Molloy, Head of LEP Co-ordination, Lancashire County Council, presented a report requesting approval for funding for the North West Burnley Growth Corridor Scheme, and presenting an update approval process for the redistribution of unallocated Growth Deal funds.

In relation to the North West Burnley Growth Corridor scheme, it was noted that the Board was being asked to approve an allocation of £4.9m to a revised scheme, following the comments of the Local Plan Inspector in relation to the proposed employment sites, with the remaining £2.1m of the original £7m allocation being retained pending the outcome of the consultation on the revised proposals.

Resolved: That

- i. a maximum funding allocation of £4.9m be approved to the North West Burnley Growth Corridor scheme subject to the conditions agreed by the Growth Deal Management Board.
- ii. the retention of £2.1m of the original £7m allocation be approved for the North West Burnley Growth Corridor scheme for a period of four months and, in the event that the £2.1m is not required for the scheme, agree that it will be subject to the LEP's approval process for redistributing any unallocated funds within the Growth Deal programme.
- iii. the changes to the Growth Deal unallocated funding approval process as set out in the report be approved.
- iv. the process for approving Growth Deal quarterly reporting submissions to the Cities and Local Growth Unit be approved, including providing retrospective approval for the Quarter 3 2017/18 Quarterly Reporting Summary Dashboard.

9. Strategic Marketing and Communications Activity Update Report

Kathryn Molloy, Head of LEP Co-ordination, Lancashire County Council, presented an update on recent marketing and communication activity. Attention was drawn to the Lancashire Digital Skills Summit, which was reported as having been a great success.

Resolved: That the contents of the report be noted.

10. Any Other Business

None.

11. Date of Next Meeting

It was noted that the next meeting of the LEP Board was scheduled to be held on Tuesday 26 June 2018 at 4.30 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.

12. Growing Places Investment Fund - Loan Facility Approval

Kathryn Molloy, Head of LEP Co-ordination, Lancashire County Council, presented a report in Part II (Private and Confidential), in relation to loan funding via the LEP's Growing Places Fund for a development in Preston.

Resolved: That the LEP Board authorise the County Council, under the guidance of the Directors of Corporate Services and Economic Development and Planning to finalise and enter into all necessary legal documentation relating to the development in Preston as set out in the report.

Laura Sales
Company Secretary