

LANCASHIRE BUSINESS SUPPORT MANAGEMENT BOARD
TERMS OF REFERENCE (SEPTEMBER 2016)

Composition

1. Unless otherwise agreed by the Lancashire Enterprise Partnership, the Business Support Management Board shall comprise a minimum of 4 members and a maximum of 10.
2. The Members of the Business Support Management Board shall be appointed by the Lancashire Enterprise Partnership and shall draw members be drawn from business, business representative organisations, business support providers and business finance specialists.
3. The members of the Business Support Management Board, as at the date of adoption of these Terms of Reference, are as follows:

Mike Blackburn	Chair / LEP Board Member
Mike Damms	Vice Chair / LEP Board Member / EL
Babs Murphy	NWL Chamber
Frank McKenna	Downtown in Business Lancashire
Gary Lovatt	Federation of Small Business
Tim Webber	Regenerate Pennine Lancashire
Dr Sue Smith	Centre for SME Development - UCLAN
The serving officer / chair	Lancashire Institute of Directors
The serving officer / chair	Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales

Members can nominate substitute representatives, with written notification provided to the Clerk in advance of the meeting. Substitutes will be counted towards the quorum and will be entitled to vote. The use of substitutes shall be by exception rather than rule and persistent none attendance may result in a review of membership.

In addition the group will seek by nomination members offering expertise on:-

HEI's as a provider of Business Support Business Finance as a constraint on business growth ambitions.

4. The Business Support Management Board may invite any persons it sees fit to attend meetings as observers. Observers shall be subject to the LEP Assurance Framework protocol on observer attendance at meetings.
5. When considering the appointment of additional members to the Business Support Management Board, perceived gaps in knowledge / experience, together with sectoral and geographical coverage will be taken into account.

Chair and Deputy Chair

6. The Lancashire Enterprise Partnership shall appoint the Chair.

7. The Chair shall not have a casting vote.
8. The Business Support Management Board may appoint one of its number to act as Deputy Chair ("Deputy Chair").

Quorum

9. The quorum for Business Support Management Board meetings shall be 3.
10. If within fifteen minutes from the time appointed for the holding of a Business Support Management Board meeting a quorum is not present, the meeting shall be adjourned. The Secretary shall arrange for the meeting to take place within two weeks.

Secretary

11. The Company Secretary of the Lancashire Enterprise Partnership (or their nominee) shall serve as the Secretary ("The Secretary") to the Business Support Management Board.
12. The Secretary shall produce minutes of all meetings of the Business Support Management Board and will maintain a list of conflicts of interests. Future Business Support Management Board agendas will include a standard item requiring declarations to be made in relation to specific items of business.
13. The Secretary shall produce and maintain an action list of all outstanding Business Support Management Board matters, a copy of which shall be circulated to meetings of the Business Support Management Board.

Meeting Frequency

14. The Business Support Management Board shall meet according to operational need.

Decisions in Writing

15. A resolution in writing signed by the majority of the members of the Business Support Management Board for the time being shall be as valid and effectual as if it had been passed at a meeting of the Business Support Management Board.

Remit

16. The Business Support Management Board's primary responsibility is to consider skills development priorities within across the LEP geography and any related issues and make recommendations on the same to the relevant bodies. In doing so, the Business Support Management Board shall:
 - a. Develop and promote business support strategy, initiatives and programmes aligned with agreed priorities, as part of the LEP's Strategic Economic Plan;

- b. Seek to co-ordinate and commission a publicly funded business support offer which is clear, fit for purpose and which complements both commercial and national offers.
- c. Commission and maintain an evidence-base to help understand key business support demands in the LEP area;
- d. Identify and work with other LEP areas on business support issues of strategic and cross-boundary significance; and
- e. Advise on the deployment of business support funding directly accessed or influenced by the LEP and make best use of public investment in this policy area.

Governance Relationship with the LEP

- 17. The LEP is responsible for agreeing the Terms of Reference of the Business Support Management Board and has the power to vary the same.
- 18. The Business Support Management Board shall review its Terms of Reference from time to time as necessary and report their findings to the LEP.
- 19. Minutes of Business Support Management Board meetings shall be submitted to the LEP Board at the LEP's request and significant action points will be reported as part of a Chair's Update.
- 20. The Chair shall provide update reports to the LEP Board at the LEP's request.

Relationship with Lancashire County Council

- 21. Lancashire County Council shall provide administrative and legal support to the Business Support Management Board.
- 22. Lancashire County Council shall maintain an official record of the Business Support Management Board proceedings and a library of all formal Business Support Management Board documents.