



SOLENT
LOCAL
ENTERPRISE
PARTNERSHIP

Solent Local Enterprise Partnership Meeting of the Board of Directors (External meeting note)

Held on Friday 15th May 2015
10:00 - 12:30
At GKN Aerospace, Isle of Wight

Present	In Attendance
Gary Jeffries (Chairman)	Susan Aistrope
Chris Allington	Stuart Baker
Jonathan Bacon	Crispin Dick
Stuart Hill	James Fitzgerald
Donna Jones	Marc Griffin
Russell Kew	Richard Jones
Dave Lees	Nicola Simmons
Simon Letts	Diarmid Swainson
Anne-Marie Mountifield	
Don Nutbeam	Apologies
Nick Ridehalgh	Keith Mans
Seán Woodward	Jan Ward
	Chris Ward
	Guests
	Garry Hernes - GKN Aerospace
	Sarah McCarthy-Fry - GKN Aerospace
	Peter Smith - University of Southampton
	Alex Mant - University of Southampton

Item		ACTION
1.	Welcome & Apologies Gary Jeffries welcomed everyone to the meeting. Garry Hernes, GKN Aerospace Site MD, welcomed all to GKN and provided an overview of GKN Aerospace. Questions followed from Board members. Gary Jeffries introduced Diarmid Swainson (Assistant Director BIS Local) to the Board and round table introductions took place.	

2.	<p>Apologies Apologies were noted from Keith Mans and Jan Ward.</p>	
3.	<p>Minutes of meeting held on 20th March 2015 The full set of Minutes and the abridged set for publication on the Solent LEP website were AGREED from the previous meeting and signed by Gary Jeffries.</p>	
4.	<p>Matters arising</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Anne-Marie Mountifield advised that work was progressing on a number of Solent Futures Defence based RGF projects and a further update would come forward as part of the year end performance report to FFPMG 2. Marine Conservation Zones - following the discussion at the March Board meeting, the response to the consultation was submitted to DEFRA. <p>Declarations of Interests</p> <p>Russell Kew - Direct interest in Cross Solent Connectivity Scheme.</p> <p>Jonathan Bacon - Non pecuniary interest in Cross Solent Connectivity Scheme. - Non pecuniary interest in IoW College project</p>	
5.	<p>Executive Update Anne-Marie Mountifield took the paper as read and highlighted the following areas and decisions in the paper:</p> <p><u>European Structural Investment Fund (ESIF) 2014-2020</u> There are currently 2 project calls out seeking bids which are focused on Research & Development and SMEs- start-ups and growth. Committees have been established in each LEP area and their role is advisory. The LEP Chief Executive currently Chairs the shadow Solent ESIF Committee and therefore will provide regular updates to the main LEP Board on the work of the committee as it moves forward.</p> <p>It was also noted that the Solent LEP will also be submitting a bid in response to the Technical Assistance call to support capacity building in the local area.</p> <p>The Board AGREED to Delegate authority to the Executive to finalise and submit an outline application for technical assistance for the Solent area in time for the second review point on 30 June 2015.</p> <p><u>Local Growth Deal (LGD)</u> The 2015/16 LGD allocation of £40,931,667 was received at Portsmouth City Council (PCC) on 10th April 2015. LGD profile for future years is still indicative.</p> <p>The Executive have issued final draft agreements for most projects.</p> <p>A discussion followed on future years funding and the need to secure further clarity on this for future years, commencing 2016/17.</p>	

	<p>The 2015/16 LGD programme has a forecast unallocated funding residual of £5,438,467. In order to ensure spend against the full £40,391,667 2015/16 allocation, the Board discussed a number of options and in principle the Board AGREED to the reallocation of the balance of £5.138 million of the 2015/16 Solent Growth Deal funding residual to the Isle of Wight College Centre of Excellence project. This is subject to the College and LEP Executive undertaking further work on options 1 and 3 and inviting the Isle of Wight College to attend the May FFPMG meeting to present and finalise the preferred option.</p> <p>The Board also AGREED:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • to Delegate Authority to the LEP Executive and accountable body to agree any changes to delivery for The Hard interchange scheme and the North Whiteley scheme; and • to advance the proposed 2016/17 allocation of £322,000 to the LTB schemes for Dunsbury Hill Farm and the Hard interchange in 2015/16 to facilitate the completion of both projects in 2015/16; and • the allocation of £300,000 from the 2015/16 budget to support the programme management of the growth deal in 2015/16; and • to Delegate authority to the Executive and the accountable body to finalise the funding agreement for the IOW College capital scheme following the FFPMG meeting on 28 May 2015. <p><u>Growing Places Fund Round 5</u> Expressions of interests have been received and are going through due diligence for consideration at the FFPMG meeting on 28th May 2015.</p> <p><u>Skills for Growth</u> The Board AGREED that Solent LEP provides a response to the consultation entitled 'A Dual Mandate for Adult Vocational Education'; and to Delegate authority to the executive to agree the response with the Chair of the ESB and Chris Allington as the Board lead for skills.</p> <p><u>Forward Plan</u> The Board AGREED the forward plan for future Board meetings and for the Executive to canvass for a Board Away Day.</p> <p><u>Other items</u></p> <p>The board discussed the need to review executive support on an ongoing basis through 2015/16 and this included agreeing to the creation of a new apprenticeship role and strengthening administration capacity and communications capacity in general. This included the creation of a new website to support the work of the LEP.</p>	<p>Executive to provide response</p> <p>Executive to canvass for Board Away Day Executive to arrange</p>
7.	<p>Life Sciences Update - Peter Smith (University of Southampton) Peter Smith thanked the Board for the opportunity to present at the meeting and for the contribution to the funding of the Executive Summary for the Central South Life Sciences report.</p> <p>Peter Smith presented on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Focus in Life Sciences 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Life Science Survey • Unique selling points • Distinguishing our region • Futures 1 option - Continue market research & build better links • Futures 2 option - Pathways to collaboration & enterprise support • Futures 3 option - Aiming high with an innovation hub <p>Questions from the Board followed and they asked for further details on the turnover/GVA of the Life Science based companies in the area to give context to the size of this sector. It was also recognised that funding support for the options presented may be available through ESIF and that Wessex Life Sciences should consider and monitor future calls for funding under ERDF.</p>	
8.	<p>Employment and Skills Board (ESB)/Solent Skills Strategy: One year on - Sarah McCarthy-Fry</p> <p>Sarah McCarthy-Fry presented the Skills Strategy Interim Evaluation report to the Board.</p> <p>A discussion followed on the recommendations in the report.</p> <p>The board agreed with the proposed recommendations that in taking forward the Skills Strategy the focus for the LEP in the coming year should therefore be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Driving higher level skills, and building participation in higher education • Building STEM skills • Seeking devolved skills budgets for the Solent to maximise the flexibility and target effective use of resources. <p>The Board were also advised that the University of Portsmouth, University of Southampton, Southampton Solent University and Winchester University run an outreach programme in the region to aspire school children into the key sectors of the region. The executive will liaise with the outreach programme lead to attend a future ESB meeting.</p>	University of Southampton to forward contact details
6.	<p>Board Updates</p> <p>a) <u>Business Support Investment Panel</u></p> <p>The Business Support Investment Panel met on 21st April 2015. The Panel requested that two projects that had applied to the Advanced Manufacturing SME Fund, go before the Board for grant support. The Board AGREED the recommendations for support from the Business Support Investment Panel for the two projects from Cherrytech Engineering and Hi Tech Precision Engineering.</p> <p>b) <u>Solent Strategic Land and Infrastructure Board (SSLIB)</u></p> <p>Dave Lees provided an update on the work of the SSLIB.</p>	
9.	<p>AoB</p> <p><u>Solent LEP Business Director and Membership Recruitment</u></p> <p>The Board discussed the Business Director vacancy on the Board, following the decision by Philippe Jouy from Bouygues to step down from the Board due to his changing role at Bouygues. The Board AGREED to advertise the vacancy and they AGREED the Solent LEP Business Member & Directors information and application pack and to Delegate authority to the Executive and Company Secretary to initiate the recruitment process and facilitate the subsequent B Director election process.</p>	

	No further business. Meeting closed.	
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Meeting closed at 12:35