



**SOLENT
LOCAL
ENTERPRISE
PARTNERSHIP**

Solent Local Enterprise Partnership Meeting of the Board of Directors
Held on Monday 09 March 2020 at 09:00 at Solent Spa and Hotel, Whiteley

Present	Apologies
Brian Johnson (Interim Chair)	David Youngs
Anne-Marie Mountifield	Chris Ward - Portsmouth City Council
Judith Grajewski	Sophie Mallon - Portsmouth City Council
Kevin George	Toni Wootton - BEIS Cities and Local Growth Unit (CLGU)
Christopher Hammond	Lloyd Clark - Portsmouth City Council
SJ Hunt	
Paula Swain	In Attendance
Rachael Randall	Stuart Baker (LEP Executive)
Nick Loader	Steve Futter (LEP Executive)
Graham Galbraith	Richard Jones (LEP Executive)
Dave Stewart	Nicola Twiddy (LEP Executive)
Seán Woodward	Caitlin Earey (LEP Executive)
Gerald Vernon-Jackson	James Fitzgerald - Portsmouth City Council (as the Accountable Body)
Jo Sawford	
	Guests
	David Williams - Portsmouth City Council (For Item 6 only)
	Trevor Keeble - Solent University (For Item 6 only)
	Mark Flemming - University of Portsmouth (For Item 6 only)

Item		ACTION
1. Welcome and Introductions	Brian Johnson, as Interim Chair, opened and welcomed members to the meeting, particularly Jo Sawford as this was her first Board meeting. Brian thanked members for including an half an hour extension to the meeting in their diaries to allow for time to discuss the recent developments with Flybe.	
2. Apologies for Absence	Apologies were received from David Youngs and, from the Accountable Body, Chris Ward, Sophie Mallon and Lloyd Clark. It was noted that James Fitzgerald was attending as the nominated representative from the Accountable Body. Toni Wootton from BEIS Cities and Local Growth Unit had also sent through apologies.	
3. Notes of the meeting held on Friday 17 January 2020	The minutes of the 17 January 2020 Board meeting were Agreed and signed by the Interim Chair.	
4. Matters Arising – notes of the meeting on 17 January 2020	<u>Freeports</u> Further to the update at the previous meeting, board members had received a briefing	

<p>following the publication of the consultation by HM Government. It was noted that the Freeport steering group, chaired by Kevin George, would be meeting on 10 March 2020 and work was underway to draft a response to the consultation.</p> <p>Chris Hammond and Gerald Vernon-Jackson joined the meeting.</p> <p><u>Maritime UK Solent</u> It was noted the Solent LEP were a finalist at the Mersey Maritime Industry Awards 2020 for the Maritime 2050 award.</p> <p><u>Flybe</u> Judith Grajewski noted a potential interest in the event that any planning decision were referred to Eastleigh Borough Council full Council.</p> <p>Members were provided with an update on the situation, engagement with HM Government and Southampton Airport, and work underway to establish a Business Resilience programme for any SME businesses impacted.</p> <p>The Board discussed the situation and agreed to support the Airport in relation to their work to secure the Airport for the future as an important gateway for the Solent economy.</p> <p>The Board agreed that any consideration of APD was a national consideration and not for the LEP to consider.</p> <p>The Board also considered an update on proposed changes in regulatory responsibilities around aviation safety as it was confirmed by UK Government that they will leave the EU Agency at the end of 2020. It was agreed that it would be helpful to survey local businesses with a view to better understanding any impact of EU withdrawal and certifications in order to inform future engagement with business and HM Government.</p> <p><u>Declarations of Interest</u></p> <p>The following interests were noted ahead of the meeting in Board Members Register of Interests returns:</p> <p><u>Judith Grajewski</u> Item 5: updates in relation to M27 J10, Stubbington Bypass and New Gate Lane South Item 6: Solent Prosperity Fund</p> <p><u>Brian Johnson</u> Item 5: updates in relation to BAE Systems National Marine Autonomy Centre</p> <p><u>Anne-Marie Mountifield</u> Item 5: updates in relation to BAE Systems National Marine Autonomy Centre</p> <p><u>Dave Stewart</u> Item 5: update in relation to Floating Bridge</p>	<p>LEP Executive</p> <p>LEP Executive</p>
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<p><u>Kevin George</u> Item 5: update in relation to Floating Bridge</p> <p><u>Rachael Randall</u> Item 5: update in relation to Floating Bridge (based on location of business)</p> <p><u>Stuart Baker</u> Item 5: updates in relation to M27 J10, Stubbington Bypass and New Gate Lane South Item 6: Solent Prosperity Fund</p> <p><u>Sean Woodward</u> Item 5: updates in relation to M27 J10, Stubbington Bypass, New Gate Lane South, North Whiteley and CETC. Item 6: Solent Prosperity Fund</p> <p><u>Paula Swain</u> Item 5: update in relation to M27 J10 Item 6: Solent Prosperity Fund</p> <p><u>Chris Ward</u> Item 5: update in relation to Floating Bridge Item 6: Solent Prosperity Fund</p> <p><u>Graham Galbraith</u> Item 6: Solent Prosperity Fund</p> <p><u>Gerald Vernon-Jackson</u> Item 6: Solent Prosperity Fund</p> <p><u>Nick Loader</u> Item 6: Solent Prosperity Fund</p> <p>The Board discussed engagement with other areas and the potential to strengthen collaboration with Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole Council and Chichester Council was noted.</p>	
<p>4. Matters arising - Management of interests Board members</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Considered the extent that any interests on the Register of Interests forms submitted by LEP Board Directors give rise to situations in which those Directors have, or could have, a direct or indirect interest that conflicts with, or might possibly conflict with, the interests of the company (for the purposes of section 175 of the Companies Act 2006), and having considered whether authorisation of such possible conflicts is in the best interests of the company; • Authorised those potential conflict situations subject to the proviso that if any such possible conflict materialises as an actual conflict: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. the conflicted LEP director is absent from the part of the meeting at which there is discussion of any arrangement or transaction giving rise 	

	<p>ii. to the conflict; the conflicted LEP director does not vote on any such matter and is not to be counted when considering whether a quorum of directors is present at the meeting.</p>	
	<p>6.Solent Prosperity Fund</p> <p>As guests had been invited to present a progress update on their schemes, it was decided to re-order the agenda to consider Item 6 ahead of Item 5.</p> <p>Board Members noted that there was 12 months in which to allocate, contract and defray the remaining LGD Capital programme and therefore they wanted to review progress on the four SPF schemes that were preparing full business cases for submission on 23 March 2020 and the M27 J10 scheme which has been in the business case development stage for the past 15 months.</p> <p>The following Board Members declared an interest in this item and withdrew from the meeting room: Paula Swain, Graham Galbraith, Gerald Vernon-Jackson, Judith Grajewski and Sean Woodward.</p> <p>The confidential meeting notes in relation to Item 6 of the 17 January 2020 Board meeting were Agreed and signed by the Interim Chair.</p> <p>David Williams from Portsmouth City Council was welcomed to the meeting and the Board noted the update he provided on the Southsea Flood defence scheme.</p> <p>David Williams left the meeting.</p> <p>Trevor Keeble from the University of Portsmouth was welcomed to the meeting and the Board noted the update he provided on the CCIXR project.</p> <p>Trevor Keeble left the meeting.</p> <p>Mark Flemming from Solent University was welcomed to the meeting and the Board noted the update he provided on the Warsash Safety Training Centre project.</p> <p>Mark Flemming left the meeting.</p> <p>Sean Woodward from Fareham Borough Council was welcomed to the meeting and the Board noted the update he provided on the M27 J10 scheme and they also considered the written update provided by Hampshire County Council as the scheme lead for the business case development.</p> <p>Sean Woodward left the meeting.</p> <p>Board Members considered a further written update from ABP Southampton on the Ship to Shore Power project.</p> <p>The board also:</p>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Considered a further call for projects under Large Projects and Programmes component of the Solent Prosperity Fund and decided not to progress to issue any further calls at this stage; and • Agreed that this should be kept under review to take account of the budget on 10 March 2020 and the progress of the current project pipeline; and • Requested that the LEP executive and Accountable body bring forward an update on the capital programme to the next meeting to include consideration of alternative defrayal options for unallocated funding in the event the programme pipeline is unable to spend LGD funding in the period to 31 March 2021. 	
	<p>5. Finance and Funding Update</p> <p>Paula Swain, Judith Grajewski, Graham Galbraith, and Sean Woodward re-joined the meeting. Gerald Vernon-Jackson left the meeting.</p> <p>James Fitzgerald provided an update to Board Members on the budget up to December 2019 with regards to the spend of the Local Growth Deal.</p> <p>The Board:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approved the revised budget for 2019/20 of £23,418,609 as set out in appendix A and the revised budget for the period 2020/21 to 2021/22 as set out in appendix B which included the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The current position of the Growing Places Fund as summarised in appendix D; ○ The latest position of the LGD Fund for the current financial year as set out in appendix E, noting the challenges around future delivery as set out in paragraphs 6 and 7; ○ The re-profiling and budget movements as set out in the table in paragraph 5 overleaf. • Considered and Agreed the Corporate and Strategic Risk Register attached at appendix C. • Considered the high level Risk Matrix for the Local Growth Programme attached at appendix F and delegated its Approval to the LEP Chief Executive and the Accountable Body's section 151 officer. • Noted the updates in relation to the LGD capital programme. • Noted the other project updates reported by exception in paragraph 8 of this report. • Noted the updates provided on the M27 J10 scheme and the Stubbington bypass scheme. • Approved the request for a funding agreement variation for the North Whiteley project to enable drawdown of phases two and three ahead of completion of phase one and to Delegated the authority to complete this to the LEP Executive and the Accountable Body <p>Chris Hammond and Sean Woodward left the meeting.</p> <p>The board also requested that the risk registers under Appendix C and Appendix F undergo further review to reflect the potential impact of COVID-19 on the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Operational resilience of the LEP • Deliverability of schemes under contract • Business resilience and economic performance in the Solent 	<p>LEP Executive and Accountable Body</p> <p>LEP Executive and Accountable Body</p>

	Jo Sawford and Nick Loader left the meeting.	
7. Draft Business Plan 2020/21	<p>The paper was taken as read and board members were asked, if they had not already done so, to forward any comments they had onto the LEP Executive on the Delivery Plan for 2020/21.</p> <p>Board members:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agreed to provide any further Advice to the Executive on the draft Annual Delivery Plan for 2020/21 provided in annexe A by Friday 20 March 2021; and • Delegated authority to the Chairman and Chief Executive to finalise the Delivery Plan for publication by the end of March 2020. 	LEP Executive
8. Strategy Update	As an in-depth discussion was required for this item, it was decided to schedule a dedicated strategy meeting for the Board to consider.	LEP Executive to canvas board members with a new date
9. Any Other Business	<p>Board Members Considered and Agreed the forward plan, with the additions to be included as discussed in this meeting.</p> <p>An update was provided in relation to the election of a new LEP Chair and the Board noted that it was anticipated that the outcome would be notified on 23rd March 2020.</p> <p>An update was provided in relation to the Institute of Technologies expression of interest process and the work the Skills Advisory Panel had undertaken to convene local stakeholders to date. It was noted that, since the meeting, a number of organisations had begun work on expressions of interest.</p> <p>Judith Grajewski noted a potential interest in her role as a Governor at Eastleigh College.</p> <p>It was agreed to Delegate this activity to Rachael Randall as Chair of the Skills Advisory Panel, with the support of the LEP Executive.</p>	<p>LEP Executive</p> <p>LEP Executive and SAP Chair</p>
Date of next meeting	The date of the next Board meeting was confirmed as 22 May 2020.	

Board Meeting closed at 13:04