



**SOLENT
LOCAL
ENTERPRISE
PARTNERSHIP**

Solent Local Enterprise Partnership Meeting of the Board of Directors

Held on Friday 22 July 2022 at 09:00 - 12:00 convened at Shoosmiths, Whiteley and electronically over video conference

Present	In Attendance
Anne-Marie Mountifield	Jack Elias (DLUCH)
Rachael Randall (Chair)	James Fitzgerald (Portsmouth City Council, as the Accountable Body)
Alex Rennie	Lizzi Goodwin - Item 9 (Portsmouth City Council, as the Accountable Body) (Via Teams)
David Youngs (via Teams)	Nicola Twiddy (LEP Executive)
Edward Heron (via Teams)	Paul Somerset - Item 9 (Portsmouth City Council, as the Accountable Body)
Graham Barnetson (Via Teams)	Peter Baulf (Portsmouth City Council, as the Accountable Body) (Via Teams)
Graham Galbraith (Via Teams)	Richard Jones (LEP Executive)
Jo Sawford	Richard Turl (DLUCH)
Julie Jones Evans	Stuart Baker (LEP Executive)
Nick Loader	
Paula Swain	
Steve Pitt	
Apologies	Guests
Brooke Hoskins	Item 7 only - Asa Thorpe & Martin Gossling
Salli Shapcott	Item 8 only - Lewis Atter & Kirsten Saguil - KPMG (via Teams)
Satvir Kaur	
Sophie Mallon (Portsmouth City Council, as the Accountable Body)	

Item		ACTION
1.	<p>Welcome and Introduction The Chair welcomed all to the meeting. The new P and B Directors were introduced and welcomed to the Board along with Richard Turl as the new DLUCH Lead. Round table introductions took place. Paula Swain welcomed all to Shoosmiths, Whiteley.</p> <p>Apologies for Absence Apologies were noted from Brooke Hoskins, Salli Shapcott, Satvir Kaur and Sophie Mallon.</p>	
2.	<p>Integrating LEPs into democratic institutions and devolution update An update on integrating LEPs into democratic institutions and devolution was provided including an overview of the 3 pathways currently in place.</p> <p>An update on emerging devolution proposals (including the County Deal) was provided. The Chair advised that the LEP is keen to engage on wider basis if other devolution proposals are under development as well. It was noted that as no devolved institutions exist covering the Solent area, the LEP will be continuing to deliver a number of functions on behalf of government.</p> <p>Richard Turl joined the meeting (09:26)</p> <p>The future role for the LEP will be discussed in more detail at the forthcoming strategy day in October to include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Consideration of future investment strategy to support Solent 2050. - The LEP role in brokering devolution negotiations and any potential LEP integration. <p>There was also a discussion on emerging programme strands and opportunities including</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Taking on the lead role for the digital skills partnership in the South East. - Engaging with DCMS on the creative growth partnership programme. - In relation to Visitor economy, considering the Government response to the independent review of destination management organisations in England – see https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/government-response-to-the-independent-review-of-destination-management-organisations-in-england/government-response-to-the-independent-review-of-destination-management-organisations-in-england <p>The Board noted that one of the 12 recommendations is for the LEPs to realise the value of tourism and ensure that visitor economy is fully integrated into their local strategies. Solent 2050 has set out visitor economy as one of the key priorities.</p> <p>At this point the following board members declared an interest</p> <p>Julie Jones-Evans and Rachael Randall are Board Members of Visit Isle of Wight and Julie Jones-Evans and one of Graham Barnettson's colleagues is also on the board at Visit Isle of Wight.</p> <p>The board noted that HM Government recognise the vital role that LEPs can play in supporting the visitor economy and the work of the proposed Local Visitor Economy Partnerships (LVEP'S) and Agreed to draft a letter to existing DMOs/Local Authority Tourism Departments with a view to bringing partners together to discuss the review recommendations.</p>	<p>Executive</p> <p>Executive</p>

3.	<p>HM Government Update</p> <p>Richard Turl was welcomed to the Board meeting, introduced himself and advised the following -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ministerial changes - The Rt Hon Greg Clark MP was appointed Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities on 7 July 2022. • Decisions on the Getting Building Fund and notification of future funding for Growth Hubs is likely to come forward late summer/early Autumn. • Levelling Up Fund is open for applications until 2 August 2022. Each MP will now have priority support for 2 bids, with successful bids to be announced in the Autumn. • The Shared Prosperity Fund window for applications closes on 1 August. 	
4.	<p>Notes of meeting held on 13 May 2022.</p> <p>The minutes from the Board meeting on 13 May 2022 were Agreed.</p>	
5.	<p>Matters Arising and declarations of interest</p> <p>The following matters arising were raised:</p> <p>Page 5 - APR - a follow up meeting has taken place and the LEP has met all requirements in terms of Strategy, Delivery and Governance.</p> <p>Page 5 – The Delivery plan for 2022/23 was submitted to Government at the end of June and has been published.</p> <p>Page 2 - Strategy Day - Executive will canvass Board Members for a date in October</p> <p>Page 2 - Freeport Covenant letter was discussed at the Solent Freeport Consortium Ltd (SFCL) Board meeting last week and a verbal update was provided. The Executive will arrange a meeting with the SFCL Chair/Board Members and LEP Chair and Board Members who also sit on the Freeport board or support the work of SFCL to discuss next steps.</p> <p>All other matters will be covered as part of the meeting.</p> <p><u>Declarations of Interest</u></p> <p>The following interests were noted ahead of the meeting:</p> <p><u>Alex Rennie</u></p> <p>Item 10 - HBC have a representative on the Board of SFCL</p> <p><u>Anne-Marie Mountfield</u></p> <p>Item 9A Annexe D - Maritime UK Solent Articles - Maritime UK Solent Ltd Director Item 11A – Non-Executive Board Director role with VIVID Housing Ltd and VIVID + Item 11B - MUK Solent Award Sponsorship - Maritime UK Solent Ltd Director</p> <p><u>Edward Heron</u></p> <p>Item 2 - HCC Cabinet Member and Executive Lead for Transport and Environment Strategy Item 6 - HCC scheme lead for A326 Scheme Item 8 - Enterprise Zone Update - HCC scheme lead for - EZ Road and Retained Rates Matters arising and Item 10 - General Updates - Director of Solent Freeport Consortium Limited</p>	<p>Executive</p> <p>Chair/Board members</p>

	<p><u>Graham Barnetson</u> Item 6 - General interest in the IOW Floating Bridge (location of business) Item 9A Annexe D - Maritime UK Solent Articles - Maritime UK Solent Ltd Director Item 11B - MUK Solent Award Sponsorship - Maritime UK Solent Ltd Director</p> <p><u>Julie Jones-Evans</u> Item 6 - Isle of Wight Scheme lead for Floating Bridge 6</p> <p><u>Paula Swain</u> Matters arising and Item 10 - General Updates - Director of Solent Freeport Consortium Limited</p> <p><u>Rachael Randall</u> Item 6 - General interest in the IOW Floating Bridge (location of business) Item 9 - LEP Chair Recruitment</p> <p><u>Richard Jones</u> Item 6 - PCR / Maritime Innovation Hub - nominated as lead for Solent Freeport Consortium Ltd Management of Seed Capital Funding call</p> <p><u>Steve Pitt</u> Item 6 - PCC scheme lead for Southsea Coastal Defence Scheme and PCC scheme lead for Portsmouth International Port Item 10 - General Updates - PCC have a representative on the Board of SFCL</p> <p><u>Stuart Baker</u> Item 6 A326 Scheme - spouse works in an unrelated role at HCC Item 9A Annexe D - (MUK Solent Articles and recruitment approach) Maritime UK Solent Ltd Director Item 11B - MUK Solent Award Sponsorship - Maritime UK Solent Ltd Director</p> <p>Item 10 General Updates - Portsmouth City Council are accountable body for Solent Freeport Consortium Ltd and Solent LEP providing exec support including Anne-Marie Mountifield as the Senior Responsible Officer.</p> <p><u>General Noting</u> Item 6 Appendix F (Risk Register) - Board Members are asked to delegate the agreement of the LGD risk register to the LEP Chief Executive and S151 officer. On this basis, all interests in relation to risk register are potential and for noting only. Board Members only required to withdraw from meeting if Board wish to discuss a specific project.</p>	
<p>6.</p>	<p>Finance, Funding and Performance Management report The Finance paper was taken as read and James Fitzgerald provided an overview on the latest position of the Local Growth Deal, Getting Building Fund and budgets.</p> <p>Richard Jones left the meeting (10:34)</p>	

<p><u>Seed Capital Funding Update</u></p> <p>An update on the Fund was provided and The Board:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Considered the update on the GBF Project Change Request in paragraph 3.4.2 and Agreed to allocate £850,000 of the recycled Growing Places Loan fund to underwrite the risk of Government not approving the GBF PCR within the timescales required for the submission of a business case to the Freeport. 	<p>AB</p>
<p>Richard Jones joined the meeting (10:36)</p>	
<p>The Board also:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Noted the Solent LEP statutory accounts as prepared by the Accountable Body at Appendix I and agreed for the Chair to sign them off. 	<p>Chair & AB</p>
<p><u>North Whiteley</u></p> <p>An updated was provided on the project.</p> <p>The Board:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agreed to extend the delivery phase for the North Whiteley project as set out in paragraph 3.4.1 of the report, and Delegated Authority to the LEP Executive and Accountable Body to finalise. 	<p>Executive & AB</p>
<p><u>Isle of Wight College - CECAMM</u></p> <p>The Board:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agreed the recommendation from FFPMG to vary the contract to identify five "indirect" jobs as being "direct" and to Delegate Authority to the LEP Executive and Accountable Body to finalise 	<p>Executive & AB</p>
<p>Steve Pitt left the meeting (10:39)</p>	
<p><u>Southsea Coastal Defence Scheme</u></p> <p>The Board:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Considered the update on the Southsea Coastal Defence Scheme in paragraph 3.4.1, Agreed the variation for 3 months (up to 6 months with FFPMG sign off) and Delegated Authority to the LEP Executive and Accountable Body to finalise. 	<p>Executive & AB</p>
<p>Steve Pitt returned to the meeting (10:41)</p>	
<p><u>A326 Highways Improvements</u></p> <p>An update on the scheme was provided at the meeting. Thanks were passed to Hampshire for their support with this scheme.</p>	
<p>Edward Heron left the meeting (10:48)</p>	
<p>The Board:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Considered the update on the A326 Highways Improvements project at appendix G, and; • Noted the subsequent request received from HCC for an extension for the delivery of J6 to the end of December 2024, and; • Agreed to provide an extension to the end of December 2024 for the delivery of J6. 	<p>Executive & AB</p>

	Edward Heron joined the meeting (10:50)	
7.	<p>LEP Funding strategy update</p> <p>Asa Thorpe & Martin Gossling joined the meeting (10:52) and provided a presentation to the Board and questions followed.</p> <p>Asa Thorpe & Martin Gossling left the meeting (11:24)</p> <p>Alex Rennie left the meeting and supported the recommendations in the paper (11:27)</p> <p>Following a discussion, The Board:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Noted the update on equity investment provided in the paper. • Agreed for strategic work to be undertaken to explore equity investment further, noting offers of support from Board Members to provide advice • Agreed for research to be undertaken on a test case • Agreed that a further update be provided to the board at the next meeting 	<p>AB/Executive</p> <p>AB/Executive</p> <p>AB/Executive</p>
8.	<p>Enterprise Zone update</p> <p>Lewis Atter & Kirsten Saguil joined the meeting (11:46) and provided a presentation on the Solent Enterprise Zone Retained Rates proposal.</p> <p>Elizabeth Goodwin, David Youngs, Edward Heron and Peter Baulf left the meeting (12:00)</p> <p>The Board:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Noted the update and Agreed for KPMG to begin this work. <p>Lewis Atter & Kirsten Saguil left the meeting (12:03)</p>	KPMG
9. B & C	<p>Governance update</p> <p>It was agreed that the papers for Item 9B and 9C would be considered at the next meeting and in the interim Board members were advised to field any queries on item 9b to the executive and for item 9c to the Head of Audit at the Accountable Body</p>	Board members
6. cont.	<p>Finance, Funding and Performance Management report</p> <p>Julie Jones-Evans left the meeting (12:05)</p> <p><u>Loan Fund</u></p> <p>The Board:</p> <p>Noted the update on the Loan Fund expressions of interest and Agreed to open the funding call again with a closing date in October 2022.</p> <p><u>Floating Bridge</u></p> <p>A verbal update as provided and The Board:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Considered the update on the Floating Bridge Project in Appendix H and Agreed the recommendations contained within it. <p>Julie Jones-Evans returned to the meeting (12:09)</p>	<p>Executive</p> <p>Executive</p>

	<p>The Board:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approved the revised budget for 2022/23 of £26,570,128 as set out in Appendix A and the revised budget for the period 2023/24 to 2024/25 as set out in appendix B which includes the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The current position of the LEP Loan Funds available as summarised in appendix D. • The latest position of the Local Growth Deal and Getting Building Funds as set out in appendices E1 and E2 respectively. • The re-profiling and budget movements as set out in the table in paragraph 3. <p>The LEP Board also:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Noted the updated and reformatted Corporate and Strategic Risk Register template at appendix C and Agreed this template for use for future updates. • Noted the update in relation to the LGD tail, the GBF programme progress and forecast tail as set out in paragraphs 3.1 and 3.2 and Considered the key risks highlighted in paragraph 3.3 of the report. • Noted the latest positions of the LGD and GBF at appendices E1 and E2. • Considered the high-level Risk Matrix for the Local Growth Programme at appendix F and delegated its Approval to the LEP Chief Executive and the Accountable Body's section 151 officer. • Noted the project specific updates by exception in paragraph 4. 	
<p>9.</p>	<p>Governance update</p> <p><u>Board recruitment and Chair appointment</u></p> <p>Rachael Randall left the meeting (12:11) and Jo Sawford took over the Chair.</p> <p>The paper was taken as read and Jo Sawford provided an overview of the Chair recruitment process.</p> <p>Consideration of remuneration for non-executives was raised and it was Agreed that SERCOM would commission work to benchmark this against other LEPS and the wider market at their next meeting and will then report back to the Board.</p> <p>The Board:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agreed the role description at Annexe A for the LEP Chair. • Agreed the draft Chair recruitment process at Annexe B and Delegate Authority to the executive to appoint an executive search agency and launch the process <p>Rachael Randall joined the meeting (12:19)</p> <p>The Board also:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agreed to adopt the revised terms of reference for the Skills Advisory Panel provided at Annexe C, and; • Delegated Authority to the executive, in consultation with the relevant Board lead for SAP and BSIP, to undertake a recruitment process for vacant positions, and; • Agreed the appointment of a Salli Shapcott as the new FFPMG representative and Brooke Hoskins as the new Skills Lead and SAP Chair. 	<p>SERCOM</p> <p>Executive</p> <p>Executive</p>

	<p>Anne-Marie Mountifield, Graham Barnetson and Stuart Baker left the meeting (12:20)</p> <p>The Board:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agreed that the Articles of Association at Annexe D be adopted in substitution for the current Articles of Association of Maritime UK Solent. • Agreed to support the approach of the Maritime UK Solent Board in relation to recruitment to vacancies. 	<p>MUK Solent</p> <p>MUK Solent</p>
11B	<p>Any other business</p> <p><u>MUK Solent sponsorship</u></p> <p>An opportunity to support and sponsor the MUK Solent Awards was highlighted.</p> <p>The Board:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agreed to Sponsor the Business of the year category. <p>If any Board Members are interested in attending the event, please email Richard Jones.</p> <p>Anne-Marie Mountifield and Graham Barnetson joined the meeting (12:23)</p>	<p>Executive</p>
11A.	<p>Confidential AoB</p> <p>James Fitzgerald, Richard Turl and Jack Elias left the meeting (12:24)</p> <p>The paper was taken as read and following an update and a discussion at the meeting Anne-Marie Mountifield left the meeting (12:38)</p> <p>The Board:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agreed that Anne-Maire Mountifield can accept the appointment as a Non-Executive Director for VIVID Housing and Chair of VIVID Plus Ltd. <p>Graham Galbraith left the meeting (12:42)</p>	
10.	<p>General updates from Board Leads – for note</p> <p>The update was taken as read and noted by the Board.</p>	
11.	<p>Any other business</p> <p><u>Forward Plan</u></p> <p>The Board:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Considered and Agreed the forward plan. <p>The next meeting is scheduled for 7 October 2022 via Teams.</p> <p>No further business, so the meeting was closed.</p>	

Meeting closed at 12:43