

**Meeting of the Solent Growth Forum held on Thursday 20 October at 14:00 - 15:30 via MS Teams video conference and live streamed to the public**

<b>Present Councillors/Members</b>	<b>Ex-Officio</b>
Councillor Alexis McEvoy - New Forest District Council (Chair)	Peter Baulf - Legal Representative, Solent LEP Accountable Body, Portsmouth City Council
Councillor Ken Moon - East Hampshire District Council	Lloyd Clark - Finance Representative, Solent LEP Accountable Body, Portsmouth City Council
Councillor Lorna Fielker- Southampton City Council	James Harris - Democratic Services, Portsmouth City Council, Accountable Body
Jason Grygiel - Gosport Borough Council	Kate Cloud - Acting Head of Corporate Services and Performance, Solent LEP
Joe Lever - Isle of Wight Council	Darren Coventry, Strategic Lead, Solent LEP Careers Hub
Richard Stone - Havant Borough Council	Lauren Hartley - Governance and Compliance Manager, Solent LEP (+Note Taker)
Tristan Samuels - Portsmouth City Council	Stuart Baker, Business Development Director, Solent Local Enterprise Partnership
<b>Apologies</b>	<b>Invited Attendees</b>
Councillor Susan Bayford - Fareham Borough Council	
Councillor Derek Pretty - Eastleigh Borough Council	
Councillor Pamela Bryant - Hampshire County Council	
Richard Jones - Solent LEP	

<b>Item</b>	<b>ACTION</b>
<p><b>1. Welcome and Introductions</b> All were welcomed all to the meeting and advised that the meeting was being live streamed and recorded.</p> <p><u>Apologies</u> Apologies were noted from: Councillor Susan Bayford - Fareham Borough Council Councillor Derek Pretty - Eastleigh Borough Council Councillor Pamela Bryant - Hampshire County Council</p> <p><u>Agreement of Solent Growth Forum Chair</u> Peter Baulf, Legal Representative of the LEPs Accountable Body presided over the meeting until the Chair was appointed. A nomination from Councillor Alexis McEvoy to be the Chair of SGF was received at the</p>	

	<p>Solent LEP, no further nominations were received. Jayson Grygiel seconded the nomination.</p> <p>Councillor Alexis McEvoy was <b>agreed</b> as the Chair of the Solent Growth Forum (SGF).</p>	
<p><b>2.</b></p>	<p><b>Solent 2050 and Q&amp;A</b></p> <p>Darren Coventry joined the meeting at 14:11.</p> <p>Stuart Baker (Business Development Director, Solent Local Enterprise Partnership) provided an overview of Solent LEP 2050, which is available on the Solent LEP website at: <a href="https://solentlep.org.uk/media/4289/60410-solent-2050-updated-130422.pdf">https://solentlep.org.uk/media/4289/60410-solent-2050-updated-130422.pdf</a> and the link to this was shared with attendees prior to the meeting.</p> <p>Solent Growth Forum Members:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Noted</b> the update.</li> </ul> <p>Questions from the forum were received following the presentation and answered by Stuart Baker, who confirmed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The acronym "GVA" stands for Gross Value Added - an economic metric that is used throughout Solent 2050.</li> <li>• Local businesses, local authorities, schools, colleges, and Representative bodies with a broad coverage across the Solent area were consulted throughout the process of developing the Solent 2050 strategy.</li> <li>• The Solent LEP identified the best opportunities to make the most of the Freeport. The wider Solent Freeport area is the same as the Solent LEP area and investment zones have been put forward for the Isle of Wight, which will translate into opportunity for the Isle of Wight, for example working with CECAMM.</li> <li>• Employees and businesses can subscribe to free and confidential advice in relation to Health and Wellbeing through the work the Solent LEP has done with the FSB. Solent LEP is yet to reflect on the findings, but there has been a good uptake.</li> <li>• Health and Wellbeing is also reflected in the strategy and work the Solent LEP does relating to the role of the natural environment and how important this is as a feature of the area and economy.</li> <li>• Local Authorities are encouraged to sign up to the decarbonisation cluster, which was initiated with funding from ExxonMobil (though ExxonMobil will step back from this work in due course). Good governance will be built around this relating to public funding and accountable decision making, which will also increase the job opportunities in the "green" space. Stuart Baker and Tristan Samuels are to meet offline to discuss this further.</li> </ul>	<p>SB / TS</p>
<p><b>3.</b></p>	<p><b>Update on Careers &amp; Enterprise Company (CEC) Delivery and Q&amp;A</b></p> <p>Darren Coventry (Strategic Lead, Solent LEP Careers Hub) provided a presentation on the Careers &amp; Enterprise Company (CEC) Delivery. The presentation covered:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The process, key objectives and relationships with local schools and businesses that we have through the Careers Hub.</li> <li>• How the Careers Hub at the LEP interacts with each area within Solent LEP region via school engagement.</li> <li>• Our work with Cornerstone Employers.</li> <li>• Plans to improve the Gatsby Benchmarks of good career guidance within the Solent LEP area.</li> </ul>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) and neurodiversity support.</li> <li>○ Not in Employment, Education or Training (NEET) support.</li> <li>○ Support for those who are electively home educated.</li> <li>○ Parents and Guardians.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Plans for 2022/23.</li> </ul> <p>Joe Lever left the meeting at 14:54  Cllr Ken Moon left the meeting at 15:00  Cllr Richard Stone left the meeting at 15:01  Cllr Lorna Fielker left the meeting at 15:18</p> <p>Solent Growth Forum Members:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Noted</b> the update.</li> </ul> <p>Questions from the forum were received following the presentation and answered by Darren Coventry, who confirmed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ The Government has set a target number of 5 in relation to performance targets; the Solent LEP are not yet reaching this.</li> </ul>	
4.	<p><b>Review of Budget position and financial forecasts and Capital Programme Update</b>  Lloyd Clark (s151 representative, Portsmouth City Council, Accountable Body and Kate Cloud (Acting Head of Corporate Services and Performance, Solent Local Enterprise Partnership) provided an update on the budget position, financial forecasts and the Capital Programme, including project and programme monitoring and the risk management process used within the Solent Local Enterprise Partnership.</p> <p>The financial papers were taken as read.</p> <p>Solent Growth Forum Members:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Noted</b> the update</li> </ul> <p>Tristan Samuels left the meeting at 15:32</p>	
6.	<p><b>AOB</b></p> <p>Councillor McEvoy, Chair, confirmed that there was a lot of very useful information delivered in the Forum, and it was noted that future meetings may need to contain fewer items that are delved deeper into in order to scrutinise these topics more.</p> <p>Members are invited to forward ideas of future agenda items to Lauren Hartley or the Chair.</p> <p>There was no further business, so the meeting was closed.</p>	ALL

**Meeting closed at 15:42**