



Minutes CWLEP Board Meeting 21 May 2018

Attendance:

Nick Abell: Chair	Wright Hassall
Sean Farnell	C&W Chamber of Commerce/FSB
Clive Winters o.b.o. John Latham	Coventry University
Kate Hughes o.b.o. Stuart Croft	University of Warwick
Cllr Tony Jefferson	Stratford District Council
Sarah Windrum	Emerald Group
Cllr Andrew Mobbs	Warwick District Council
Cllr Mike Hall	Hinckley & Bosworth Borough Council
Mike Crone	Jaguar Land Rover
Cllr Chris Cade	Rugby Borough Council
Cllr Jim O'Boyle	Coventry City Council
Cllr David Humphreys	North Warwickshire Borough Council
Cllr Ian Lloyd	Nuneaton & Bedworth Borough Council

Executives in Attendance:

Martin Yardley	CWLEP
Paula Deas	CWLEP
Roger Dowthwaite	CWLEP
Craig Humphrey	CWLEP Growth Hub
Monica Fogarty	Warwickshire County Council
Nicola Cox	CWLEP
Bill Blincoe	CWLEP Growth Hub
Dave Ayton-Hill	Warwickshire County Council
Gereint Stoneman	Warwickshire County Council

Director's Apologies:

Jonathan Browning	
John Latham	Coventry University
Stuart Croft	University of Warwick
Paul Kehoe	
Cllr Peter Butlin	Warwickshire County Council
Karl Eddy	Grant Thornton
Marion Plant	Nominated representative for the FE Principals
Zamurad Hussain	HBT Communications

In Attendance:

Adam Dent	Advent Communications
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Apologies:

Andy Williams	CWLEP
Linsey Luke	FSB
Louise Bennett	C&W Chamber of Commerce
Steve Maxey	North Warks Borough Council
Alicia Law	BEIS and C&LoG Team

<p>1.</p> <p>2.</p> <p>3.</p> <p>4.</p>	<p><u>Welcome & Apologies</u></p> <p>The meeting was chaired by Nick Abell, Vice-Chair. The Chair welcomed Cllr Ian Lloyd, deputy leader at Nuneaton & Bedworth Borough Council (with the portfolio for art, leisure and economic development) and Cllr Tony Jefferson, the new Leader at Stratford District Council, to their first meeting. Apologies were received from Jonathan Browning; Stuart Croft who was represented by Kate Hughes; John Latham, represented by Clive Winters; Cllr Peter Butlin; Paul Kehoe; Karl Eddy; Marion Plant and Zamurad Hussain.</p> <p><u>Call for Declarations of Interest</u></p> <p>There were no conflicts of interest declared ahead of the meeting nor during the meeting. Directors were asked to declare any material changes to their Registers of Interest to the Company Secretary who will ensure that the Registers of Interest shown on the website are maintained and current. It was noted that in the post-Mary Ney world board papers are now published on the website</p> <p>There were no matters of ‘Any Other Business’ raised.</p> <p><u>Approval of Minutes and actions from previous meeting</u></p> <p>The minutes of the last meeting were accepted as a true record and that all actions arising from that meeting have been completed or were on this agenda.</p> <p><u>Board Matters & Chairman’s Briefing</u></p> <p>The private sector directors have appointed Oliver Nicholls to fill the private sector vacancy on the Board. Oliver has a background at senior level within the travel and leisure industry and he will bring a different dimension to Board discussions and be a valuable addition to the board.</p> <p>The LEP review continues and the range of options being mentioned varies from replacing them to strengthening them. There is likely to be some rationalisation of boundaries, particularly where Local Authorities are members of two LEPs as is the case with some of the Worcestershire and Staffordshire LA’s who are also members of the Greater Birmingham & Solihull LEP. CWLEP continues to take a very active role in the discussion with government, and has contributed to discussions with Whitehall, at the Midlands Engine and at the WMCA level with Andy Street. The CWLEP Chair has been invited to attend, with all LEP chairs, the Prime Minister’s Business Council in mid-June and the review is scheduled to be published ahead of the government summer recess.</p> <p>The Senior Sponsor concept is being revived and Ministers are conscious that the previous roll-out had not been well regarded and that with BREXIT and other demands, they themselves are struggling to leave Westminster and visit LEP areas. The revived Senior Sponsor programme has been designed to address issues identified with the previous LEP Sponsor programme and will provide consistent, on-going policy and administrative support for Sponsors and LEPs with a central secretariat. It will also integrate the Sponsorship programme into a wider Whitehall decision-making process and provide effective incentives to ensure Senior Sponsors have a consistent level of commitment to their LEP. However, the Senior Sponsor programme does not replace the Ministerial Sponsor programme and LEPs will be expected to engage their Senior Sponsor alongside their Ministerial Sponsor. For CWLEP, the Senior Sponsor is Emma Squire; DCMS Director of Arts, Heritage and Tourism. She has been working in government since 2008 having had a number of roles and worked closely with Lord Heseltine on the “No Stone Unturned” report.</p> <p>The Chair of this meeting had the pleasure of attending a Midlands Engine Dinner, the week before Sajid Javid became Home Secretary, and he reaffirmed the importance of LEPs. Though now replaced by James Brokenshire it is understood that LEPs are still high on government’s agenda in the Midlands Engine initiative. It was confirmed that additional LEP capital funding will not become available until 2021, the year that Growth Deal funding expires.</p> <p>The CWLEP executive team were a ‘highly commended’ status for the category of Team of the Year at the CW first Pro Awards at Coombe Abbey in April. The Chair of this meeting also attended a conversation/lunch meeting with the Archbishop of Canterbury, Justin Welby, exploring the links between business and the Church.</p> <p>The team have been working very hard on the recently submitted regional bid for Channel 4 call out for the National HQ, and were thanked for developing such a strong submission, in particular Sarah Windrum for her support and time dedicated.</p>	
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<p>5.</p> <p>6.</p> <p>7.</p>	<p><u>Channel 4 – Next Steps</u></p> <p>A short presentation was given to the Board on the status of the West Midlands bids for the relocation of parts of Channel 4. The WMCA, through the Growth Company, had agreed to submit three potential locations for a HQ building, two in Birmingham and one (Friargate) in Coventry. In addition, a bid, independent of the WMCA, was proposed by Eleanor Smith, a local Labour MP, for a HQ building in Wolverhampton. This was not supported by Wolverhampton City Council.</p> <p>CWLEP supported the Coventry submission and a bid made by Warwick District Council for Leamington Spa to become a Creative Hub.</p> <p>The case for Coventry & Warwickshire as a location is very strong; at the heart of the transport network giving favorable travel times to London, the investments being made in the digital network, the imminent arrival of HS2 and the City of Culture 2021/ Commonwealth Games 2022. Win or lose, the strong narrative developed around the C&W applications will be used in future bids. The timetable is tight with shortlisted locations being announced at the end of May 2018.</p> <p><u>Local Industrial Strategy (LIS) Update</u></p> <p>A presentation was received by the Board on the approach & structure that the Coventry & Warwickshire Local Industrial Strategy will take. At this point in time there is no guidance from Government on what a LIS will look like. Three ‘trailblazer’ areas have been identified – Greater Manchester, the Oxford-Milton Keynes-Cambridge corridor and the West Midlands – to co-design and develop the first Local Industrial Strategies (LIS) and Government aims to agree these by March 2019. A draft of the C&W LIS will be produced by July 2018.</p> <p>It was felt that the strong economic performance of Coventry & Warwickshire could be further capitalised and promoted more widely at the national and local level.</p> <p>The Board:-</p> <p>6.1 Agreed the proposed structure for the Coventry & Warwickshire LIS.</p> <p>6.2 Asked for consultation sessions with businesses be diarised now.</p> <p>6.3 Supported engagement with the TUC and other organisations.</p> <p>6.4 Recognised that the LIS will be a funding document and should recognize when funding may become available.</p> <p><u>Planning & Housing Business Group Update</u></p> <p>The board received an update on the work of the Planning & Housing Group, about the situation regarding the Coventry and Warwickshire Strategic Employment Land Supply to 2031.</p> <p>The Board:</p> <p>7.1 Noted the update and overview of employment land supply set out in the report and presentation.</p> <p>7.2 Agreed, at a cost of up to £20k, for CWLEP to lead the work on a model policy framework for the provision of lower cost “affordable” employment land and premises.</p> <p>7.3 Agreed for CWLEP to participate in the proposed regional Inward Investment study based on the 3-LEP geography, looking at current supply and future need for sites to meet regional needs.</p> <p>7.4 Authorised the LEP Chief Executive to write to LAs urging them to;</p> <p>a) Identify a clear timetable for collection of a joint evidence base and a related programme to develop joint work of the proposed Single Spatial Framework.</p> <p>b) review resources and provide the necessary support and inputs to complete the interim web based SSF to allow publication before the end of 2018.</p> <p>7.5 Authorised the Chief Executive to liaise with LA Planning Authorities and together take to DCLG and other government agencies a proposal to access funding and resource support that would enable the development of an appropriate strategic framework to update the long-term employment and housing requirements across the CWLEP area.</p> <p>7.6 Agreed to refresh the current MoU (additional recommendation)</p>	<p>Consultation sessions with businesses to be arranged across the C&W geography</p>
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<p>8.</p>	<p><u>Programme Delivery Board Report</u></p> <p>It had been noted that Rugby Parkway had very tight deadlines in order to meet the spending profile of Growth Deal funding availability. The PDB had agreed to continue to hold funding for the Rugby Parkway project until 31st August 2018 at which point match funding would need to be evidenced and confirmed in writing by the applicant. If funding was not confirmed by then, the PDB recommended that the £4m be returned to the central CWLEP Growth Deal Funding pot for reallocation to the Open Call.</p> <p>At this meeting, Warwickshire County Council confirmed that the £4m will not be spent within the prescribed timetable and will be returned to the central pot and can be made available to the open-call.</p>	
<p>9.</p>	<p><u>Finance & Governance Report</u></p> <p>9.1 GDPR</p> <p>In respect to the implementation of GDPR, it was confirmed that the CWLEP group of companies would be compliant. Board members were advised that they should be properly trained in GDPR and to contact the executive if training was required.</p> <p>9.2 Amendment to Articles</p> <p>The Board agreed the written resolution and agreed to receive, by email, the resolution and return it duly signed. In the case of nominated 'B' Directors to also get authorisation from their nominating organisation, if required, prior to signing.</p> <p>Date of next meeting; 23 July 2018 Venue; tbc</p>	<p>Training for GDPR if needed - DIRECTORS</p>