



Minutes CWLEP Board Meeting 23 July 2018

Attendance:

Jonathan Browning
Sean Farnell
Joanne Dobson o.b.o. John Latham
Cllr Tony Jefferson
Karl Eddy
Sarah Windrum
Cllr Andrew Mobbs
Cllr Mike Hall
Cllr Peter Butlin
Cllr Chris Cade
Cllr David Humphreys
Cllr Ian Lloyd
Stuart Croft
Marion Plant

Chair
C&W Chamber of Commerce/FSB
Coventry University
Stratford District Council
Grant Thornton
Emerald Group
Warwick District Council
Hinckley & Bosworth Borough Council
Warwickshire County Council
Rugby Borough Council
North Warwickshire Borough Council
Nuneaton & Bedworth Borough Council
University of Warwick
Nominated representative for the FE Principals

Executives in Attendance:

Martin Yardley
Paula Deas
Roger Dowthwaite
Andy Williams
Craig Humphrey
Monica Fogarty
Nicola Cox
Dave Ayton-Hill
Andrew Todd o.b.o. Kate Hughes
Louise Bennett
Alicia Law
Ollie Hindle
Lee Osborne

CWLEP
CWLEP
CWLEP
CWLEP
CWLEP Growth Hub
Warwickshire County Council
CWLEP
Warwickshire County Council
University of Warwick
C&W Chamber of Commerce
BEIS and C&LoG Team
BEIS and C&LoG Team
FSB

Director's Apologies:

Nick Abell: Vice Chair
Cllr Jim O'Boyle
John Latham
Mike Crone
Paul Kehoe
Zamurad Hussain
Oliver Nicholls

Wright Hassall
Coventry City Council
Coventry University
Jaguar Land Rover

HBT Communications
City Sightseeing

In Attendance:

Adam Dent
Angela Joyce

Advent Communications
Warwickshire College Group

Apologies:

Steve Maxey

North Warwickshire Borough Council

<p>1.</p> <p>2.</p> <p>3.</p> <p>4.</p> <p>5.</p> <p>6.</p>	<p><u>Welcome & Apologies</u> EPIC Park innovation centre were thanked for hosting the meeting. Welcomes were extended to Angela Joyce who presented Agenda Item 6 with Marion Plant; and Ollie Hindle, the new member of the local BEIS team working with Alicia. Apologies had been received from Nick Abell, Paul Kehoe, Mike Crone, Zamurad Hussain, Oliver Nicholls, Cllr Jim O’Boyle, John Latham (who is represented by Joanne Dobson). Patrick White from WMCA who was down to co-present Agenda Item 9, was not able to attend. Draft Board dates 2019 were distributed for noting.</p> <p><u>Call for Declarations of Interest and AoB</u> There were no conflicts of interest declared ahead of the meeting nor during the meeting. There was one matter of ‘Any Other Business’ raised by Cllr David Humphreys concerning HS2 legacy.</p> <p><u>Approval of Minutes and actions from previous meeting</u> The minutes of the last meeting held on 21 May 2018 were accepted as a true record and all actions arising from that meeting have been completed or were on this agenda.</p> <p><u>Board Matters & Chairman’s Briefing</u> A fresh copy of the Resolution to implement the changes to the company Articles that were agreed at the May board meeting had been raised and passed round for signature. In the last week or so the government had moved to bring the findings of the LEP review to a conclusion. An announcement was expected today and a fuller discussion was held later in the meeting under the Finance and Governance item The publication of the review will follow on from the successful Prime Minister’s first Council of LEP Chairs held in June as part of their ongoing role of LEP’s in developing Local Industrial Strategies and preparing for implementation of the UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF). Emma Squire, the CWLEP Senior LEP sponsor, had an initial meeting with the CWLEP Chief Executive and Operations Director. She will be meeting the Chair in the very near future and will also be attending the next board meeting in October 2018. On the 18 July, the Government announced the Skills Agreement with the WMCA. The Agreement will boost digital and technical skills, job opportunities and productivity across the region and is designed to get more young people and adults into work as well as upskilling and retraining local people of all ages. To help CWLEP move forward on this and the wider skills work, a Productivity & Skills Executive Officer, Gemma Gathercole, has been appointed and will be working very closely with the FE sector and the Productivity & Skills Business Group. Locally, CWLEP continue to have a busy schedule of activities that many of the board directors have supported. Notably, CWLEP has welcomed a Swedish delegation of potential investors and been involved in the important ground-breaking event for the relocation of Meggit to Prospero Ansty Park; the former Rolls Royce site. This £130 million investment will provide a base for up to 1000 employees and serve as the new home for Meggit’s international headquarters. Secretaries of State Chris Grayling and Jeremy Wright formally opened Kenilworth Station. The station provides vital transport links to the economies of London, Birmingham, Coventry and Leamington Spa. Local Growth Funding of £3.49m contributed (25%) of the total £13.616 m. Champions meetings continue to go from strength to strength and the last one at Warwick School on 4 July attracted over 150 businesses.</p> <p><u>Channel 4 – Update</u> Sarah Windrum representing CWLEP was part of the 8 strong delegation from the West Midlands to meet C4 as part of the deliberations of C4 in the relocation of some of its HQ and assets away from London. Shortlisted candidate cities were expected to be announced later in the day (in the event Birmingham, Greater Manchester and Leeds were shortlisted for the main hub with Bristol, Cardiff and Glasgow shortlisted for a creative hub.).</p> <p><u>Further Education – ‘Meeting the Agility/Capacity Challenge</u> A presentation was given to the board giving an overview of the FE sector in Coventry & Warwickshire and the challenges of apprenticeships (young people in work) and ‘T’ Levels (classroom based with industry placements to Level 3, A Level equivalent). The differences between Apprenticeship Standards (job role related) and Frameworks</p>	<p>NC to confirm the dates to the board in the next month</p> <p>RD to ensure signatures are received</p>
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	<p>(leading to a qualification) were also explained and the difficulties that could arise when a young person may successfully achieve an end-point assessment to a standard that is specifically job-related without a qualification attached.</p> <p>Nationally the number of apprenticeship starts has fallen rapidly as employers struggle to get standards recognised ahead of taking apprentices. Leading employers, who pay the levy are finding difficulty to mitigate the cost.</p> <p>The demand for work-placement opportunities is increasing (schools, 'T' Levels, HE and FE) and although some brokerage is offered through the Careers & Enterprise Contract at the C&W Growth Hub it is not comprehensive.</p> <p>The Board agreed: -</p> <p>6.1 Politicians need to understand the issues facing Apprenticeships and, following Theresa May's Council of LEP Chairs meeting, there should be a follow up.</p> <p>6.2 Any invites for LEP attendance at Apprenticeship Awards should be channeled through the Executive.</p> <p>6.3 A review of brokerage service models, including looking at the Staffordshire Ladder and similar services, should be undertaken and taken to the next Board meeting.</p> <p>7. <u>Digital Creative Business Group Update</u> A brief presentation was given on the make-up and development of this group and some of the challenges the sector faces with accessing business support, infrastructure, skills and finding local investors. It was suggested that the Group could more closely define its purpose which seems to fall into 2 strands; Business Support where tailored initiatives could be developed to address some of the sector-specific issues and profile raising to 'sell' the sector to the local investment market through networking events and perhaps through C&W Champions.</p> <p>8. <u>WMCA/CWLEP State of the Region Update</u> The Board received a presentation on the 'State of the Region' report produced for the WMCA. The overall message was that economically, it was good news for the West Midlands and particularly good news for Coventry & Warwickshire. However, there remain continuing challenges in skills, health and unemployment indicators.</p> <p>9. <u>WMCA/CWLEP Local Industrial Strategy update</u> A presentation was received by the Board on the development of the WMCA and Coventry & Warwickshire LIS's. The Board were updated on progress and briefed on the pre-recess announcement / publication which was imminent. Significant development and progress will have been made by the next CWLEP Board meeting in October.</p> <p>The Board: -</p> <p>9.1 Reiterated its support for the proposed structure of the Coventry & Warwickshire LIS and for the WMCA LIS.</p> <p>10. <u>Programme Delivery Board Report</u> The standard report was presented in summary and in round numbers there have been 37 projects started, including those completed, with £130m invested with £40m invested directly by C&WLEP from the Growth Deal. Charts were shown demonstrating some of the successes and overall the Growth Deal is viewed as a good programme with the right governance arrangements around it although publicity and comms need to be improved. 3 projects out of the 37 are shown as not green which triggers focused intervention from the Programme Delivery Team.</p> <p>The Open Call is underway with currently £6m available. There is a 4-month window to apply and closes on 31 August 2018, which is longer than recommended. There is a lot of interest and circa 30 projects are expected to submit.</p> <p>The Board: -</p> <p>10.2 Noted the progress being made by the projects and programmes and endorsed the decisions of the Programme Delivery Board.</p> <p>10.3 Endorsed the Project Rag Rating as detailed in paragraph 2.1.1 which will now be submitted to BEIS</p> <p>10.4 Approved and endorsed the Gateway Assessment process and the weighting of scoring as set out in Section 6 of the report</p>	<p>MY /GC- LEP Network</p> <p>Executive</p> <p>GH/Champions networking events</p> <p>Charts to be distributed AW</p>
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