



Minutes C&W LEP Board Meeting 28th November 2016

Attendance:

Jonathan Browning: Chairman

Sean Farnell

Nick Abell

Sarah Windrum

Cllr Peter Butlin

Paul Kehoe

Cllr Jim O'Boyle

Clive Winters o.b.o. Prof. John Latham

Prof. Stuart Croft

Cllr Chris Saint

Cllr June Tandy

Cllr Andrew Mobbs

C & W Chamber of Commerce/FSB

Wright Hassall

Emerald Group

Warwickshire County Council

Birmingham International Airport

Coventry City Council

Coventry University

University of Warwick

Stratford District Council

Warwickshire County Council

Warwick District Council

In Attendance:

Marion Plant

Cllr David Humphreys

Cllr Mike Hall

Maria Machancoses

Alicia Law

Adam Dent

Kate Broadhurst

CWLEP Skills Group

North Warwickshire BC

Hinckley & Bosworth BC

Midlands Engine

BEIS and C&LoG Team

Advent Communications

Coventry University

Executives in Attendance:

Martin Yardley

Roger Dowthwaite

Paula Deas

Andy Williams

Wendy Coy

Craig Humphrey

Monica Fogarty

Steve Maxey

Louise Bennett

Linsey Luke

Lucy McGovern

CWLEP

CWLEP

CWLEP

CWLEP

CWLEP/ University of Warwick

CW Growth Hub

Warwickshire County Council

North Warwickshire BC

C&W Chamber of Commerce

FSB

Coventry City Council

Apologies:

Karl Eddy; Vice Chairman

Mike Crone

Catherine Mallyon

Cllr Abdul Khan

Cllr Michael Stokes

Cllr Dennis Harvey

Linda Beauchamp

Grant Thornton

Jaguar Land Rover

Royal Shakespeare Company

Coventry City Council

Rugby BC

Nuneaton & Bedworth BC

BEIS and C&LoG Team

<p>1.</p> <p>2.</p> <p>3.</p> <p>4.</p> <p>5.</p>	<p><u>Welcome & Apologies</u> Apologies were received from Catherine Mallyon, Karl Eddy, Mike Crone, Abdul Khan and Prof. John Latham who was represented by Clive Winters.</p> <p><u>Call for Declarations of Interest</u> There were no declarations of interest relating to items on the agenda.</p> <p><u>Approval of Minutes and actions from previous meeting</u> The minutes from the previous meeting on 10 October 2016 were approved as a true record. All actions from the last board meeting were in progress or on the agenda.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Determine which trade unions to engage with -meeting with regional TUC being arranged. • Bring restructure proposal back to November board – on the agenda • Prioritisation of projects in LGF3 to include assessment against vision in SEP – LGF3 was on the agenda • Catherine Mallyon to meet Sarah Windrum on tourism/retail and Martin Yardley on tourism infrastructure planning – in progress • Canvass the non-LA sector board members to fill the vacancy on the Scrutiny Committee of WMCA - Sarah Windrum has been nominated. • Options for low risk investments to be developed for cash balances – ongoing <p><u>Board Matters & Chairman’s Briefing</u> Karl Eddy, Due to increasing work commitments, has decided to step down as Vice Chairman of CWLEP. The board gave a vote of thanks for his work and valuable contribution as Vice Chairman and welcomed his decision to remain as director of CWLEP. Nick Abell has agreed to step up and assume the role of Vice Chairman. Following a recruitment process, Mike Crone, Purchasing & Property Director at JLR, has been appointed to fill the vacancy on the board created by the retirement of Pete Richings. CovPress remain in administration but trading as normal while administrators assess offers from potential purchasers. The 39 LEP’s are now 38 following the merger of SEMLEP and Northants LEP. It is encouraging that the key messages CWLEP are using for the Industrial Strategy are being developed by Government (land supply, power availability, digital infrastructure and skills). They are gaining traction and being played back. The JLR developing plans for a battery plant, electric vehicles and the related R&D are potentially transformational and, in the words of Greg Clark, emblematic.</p> <p><u>Proposed changes to CWLEP Constitution</u> The principles, agreed at the last board meeting, were developed into a proposal which envisages that each Local Authority in Coventry & Warwickshire would be granted a seat on the board. The implications of this for Local Authorities would be that Coventry City Council and Warwickshire County Council would be asked to nominate to a single place on the board (currently each have two nominations). All the Districts/Boroughs would similarly be asked for a nomination to a single place on the board. Hinckley & Bosworth Borough Council, an associate member of CWLEP, would be asked to continue to attend meetings as an ‘observer’. The proposals formally place a representative of FE Principals, as a participating observer to the board, into the constitution. Whilst this is a disappointment to the sector that they are not offered a full voting place on the board it was stated that board meetings very rarely resort to voting in reaching decisions, that there is a danger that increasing the board size any more will make it increasingly unwieldy. The structure proposed is evolutionary and will be monitored going forward to ensure that it works as expected. The position of Coventry City Council is not resolved and further political dialogue is required to resolve their representation. The Chairman and Chief Executive will meet with the Leader of Coventry City Council to facilitate the process. Hinckley & Bosworth BC were disappointed that it was not proposed to make them full members but were understanding of the difficulties associated with being in two LEP geographies. The</p>	
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	<p>board, if issues are not resolved, would vote on the constitution/composition proposals at its next meeting in January.</p> <p>The CWLEP Board:</p> <p>5.1 Conditionally approved the approved the proposed structure and composition of the Board subject to resolving any issues emanating from Coventry City Council</p> <p>5.2 Endorsed and supported the introduction of a single 'Executive Group' to support the CWLEP board and the Coventry & Warwickshire, Hinckley & Bosworth Joint Committee.</p> <p>5.3 Noted and endorsed the revised board governance structure</p> <p>5.4 Noted and endorsed the reconfiguration of the Business Groups.</p> <p>5.5 Authorised legal work to be undertaken on the Articles of CWLEP Ltd. that will result in the calling of an EGM to approve necessary changes that will need to be made to the Articles.</p> <p>6. <u>Autumn Statement</u> The board received a presentation on the Autumn Statement, the implications of which are still emerging. The presentation will be circulated to the Board</p> <p>7. <u>Local Growth Fund 3</u> The CWLEP pipeline of projects and schemes amounts to a total of some £400m of funding requests. The bid that was submitted was £150m. The latest indications are that this will reduce still further when announcements are made and that CWLEP will be awarded c£40m. The implications of this will need to be evaluated but it will inevitably cause the prioritisation process for projects to fundamentally change to take account of funding requested and the amount that is now available. LGF cannot be the only answer to the demand for funding and other streams have been identified in the past, such as that which has enabled Whitley South to be developed, and CWLEP will continue to explore all available sources to help fund its ambitions.</p> <p>8. <u>Funding Programme Delivery</u> The CWLEP Board:</p> <p>8.1 Noted the progress being made on the overall implementation and delivery of the current Growth Deal Programme which is on track and the difficulties that are caused by the poor performance of Network Rail.</p> <p>8.2 Noted that delivery of Whitley South is in progress</p> <p>8.3 Noted that Growing Places is now largely being managed as a "legacy fund" and that most of the available cash has been allocated to projects in three broad categories: business support (grants), business support (loans) and infrastructure projects.</p> <p>8.4 Noted the progress being made on the overall implementation and delivery of the current ERDF and ESF projects within Coventry & Warwickshire</p> <p>8.5 Noted the submission of the pipeline of future Coventry & Warwickshire ERDF and ESF projects, and the importance of ensuring these projects secure Structural Funding before the Article 50 negotiation process is completed.</p> <p>8.6 Noted that all Regional Growth Fund cash managed by CCC is now spent, and the programmes are closed other than the submission of annual monitoring reports to DCLG to allow the assessment of long term benefits.</p> <p>9. <u>Midlands Engine – Midlands Connect</u> The board received a presentation from Maria Machancoses, Midlands Engine Director, on the emerging Midlands Engine initiative that covered the 3 key drivers and 4 main themes. A strategy will be delivered to Government in March 2017. It was noted that additionality is an important tenet and Prof. Stuart Croft felt that the supervisory board must agree what is representation and versus who are the drivers behind delivery.</p> <p>10. <u>Finance & Governance Report</u> The CWLEP Board:-</p> <p>10.1 Noted the report and that Sarah Windrum has agreed to sit on the WMCA Scrutiny Committee</p> <p>10.2 Endorsed that CWLEP should be working towards being 'best in class' with regards to the assurance framework;</p>	<p>PD</p>
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