

**DORSET LOCAL ENTERPRISE PARTNERSHIP BOARD**

**MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON**

**THURSDAY 24 MARCH 2016 FROM 10.00AM TO 12.30 PM AT LULWORTH CASTLE**

**Board Attendees:**

Bruce Grant-Braham (BG)  
Diane Grannell (DG)  
Deborah Croney (DC)  
Emma Hunt (EH)  
Gordon Page (GP) - Chair  
Janet Walton (JWa)  
Jim Andrews (JA)  
John Beesley (JB)  
Richard Smith (RS)  
Robert Gould (RG)  
Alison Smith (AS)  
James Weld (JW)  
Geoffrey Smith (GS)

**Also Present:**

Angela Alderman (AA)  
Andrew Flockhart (AF)  
Martin Hamilton (MH)  
Lorna Carver (LC)  
Kirsty Bailey (KB)  
Andy Smith (AS)  
Rob Dunford (RD)  
Katherine May (KM)  
Tony Williams (TW)  
Matthew Piles (MP)  
Yvonne Elsorougi (YE)

**Presenting:**

LNP Natural Capital Investment – Simon Cripps (SC)  
Southwest Trains – Chris Loder (CL)  
KPMG – Louise Sunderland (LS)  
Combined Authority – Steph Lyons (SL)

**Apologies:**

Alison Moore  
Jim Stewart  
Richard Smith  
Debbie Ward  
Richard Bates  
Bill Cotton

| Item      | Content  | Who       |
|-----------|--|-----------|
| <b>1</b>  | <b>Apologies and Declaration of Interest</b>   |           |
| 1.1       | Apologies received: Alison Moore, Jim Stewart, Richard Smith, Debbie Ward, Richard Bates and Bill Cotton<br><br>No Declarations of Interest were made.   |           |
| <b>2</b>  | <b>Minutes of Last Meeting and Matters Arising</b><br><br>The Minutes were agreed as an accurate reflection of the last meeting and the Action Log was reviewed.<br><br><b>Matters Arising</b> - There were no matters arising.  |           |
| <b>3.</b> | <b>FOR DISCUSSION AND/OR DECISION</b>  |           |
| 3.1       | <b>Simon Cripps presented to the Board on LNP Natural Capital Investment.</b><br><br>The Board discussed the presentation; Simon Cripps recommended that the Board should consider the environment as part of the development strategy, as the environment makes Dorset a much more attractive place to do business. The Board agreed that the environment is important and welcomed the report.<br><br>The report put forward a number of recommendations, and Board expressed that more time was needed to study the report and to better understand the economics, before any decision was made on the recommendations.<br><br><b>Action: TW to progress discussions.</b> | <b>TW</b> |
| 3.2       | <b>Chris Loder presented to the Board on Southwest Trains.</b><br><br>The Board discussed the presentation. CL suggests that other counties are working at a faster pace than Dorset. MP reassured the Board that rail improvements are being focused on by DCC and funding is continuing as lobbying the Rail Minister. CL also mentioned that Network Rail were looking at the impact of growth and it was noted that growth could force rail improvements in the South West.<br><br>All agreed that improvements were key and to continue receiving updates and support from CL.<br><br><b>Action: Presentation to be circulated to the Board.</b>                        |           |
| 3.3       | <b>Louise Sunderland (KPMG) presented to the Board on Devolution.</b><br><br>The Board asked who was involved in the consultation process. LS advised that the Dorset area has had widespread consultation and that feedback would be sent to LC. JA noted that the Universities had not been consulted. LS confirmed that she would be in touch with the Universities individually.<br><br>The Board discussed the offer of a mayor as part of the deal. LS reported that all submissions, apart from Cornwall, has included a mayor.   | <b>KH</b> |

| Item      | Content   | Who          |
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| <b>3.</b> | <b>FOR DISCUSSION AND/OR DECISION CONT'D</b>  |              |
| 3.4       | <p><b>Combined Authority</b></p> <p>SL talked to the paper. All agreed to support publication to the Secretary of State with 11 April deadline.</p> <p>DC said that work is still going on to get best deal for Dorset. JB commented that under the 'next steps section' he was unsure about the timescales, we need to be clear about when combined authority is being established. SL confirmed it would be October/November. GP commented that there was a danger that we get to that point and the funding pot for the 'asks' has been used elsewhere.</p> <p><b>Action: Board expressed interest in future updates at the LEP Board</b></p>  | Growth Board |
| 3.5       | <p><b>Directors Update</b></p> <p>LC reported that the Area review is due to start in September but that pre-work is on-going and that there is an opportunity with Careers and Enterprise Company to build connections with local businesses and schools. DG added that it was important to get teachers and parents involved and raise awareness of the good careers available in Dorset.</p> <p>LC confirmed that Growth Deal 3 was been announced at the LEP Annual Conference, it is a competitive bid with no allocation per LEP. The LEP will receive letter from Greg Clark in the next couple of weeks with more information. Deadline of GD3 submission is summer recess, therefore assessment of projects will take place May/June.</p> <p><b>Action: Letter from Greg Clark to be circulated to Board upon arrival.</b></p> | LC           |
| 3.6       | <p><b>Housing</b></p> <p>AS discussed the paper, all agreed to endorse the work.</p>  |              |
| 3.7       | <p><b>Skills Paper</b></p> <p>DG presented the Skills paper for information. EH noted that Dorset is unique because of the specialised Colleges and Universities.</p>   |              |
| 3.8       | <p><b>Rural Priorities</b></p> <p>JW presented the Dorset Rural Enterprise Priorities Paper. Board agreed that JW and the Rural Enterprise Group could proceed with a detailed action plan of deliver. JW suggested for the Board to consider, whether the Board should include a champion from the food and drink sector.</p> <p><b>Action: JW to develop an action plan and circulate for attention.</b></p>  | JW           |

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| <b>3.</b> | <b>FOR DISCUSSION AND/OR DECISION CONT'D</b>  |                   |
| 3.9       | <p><b>LEP Assurance Framework</b></p> <p>RD discussed the update to the Assurance Framework; he highlighted the addition of the Governance Structure diagram and asked for the Board to ensure that nothing has been missed.</p> <p><b>Action: JW asked for Rural Enterprise Group to be added.</b></p>   | <b>RD</b>         |
| 3.10      | <p>The Board approved the updated Assurance Framework.</p> <p><b>Silicon South</b></p> <p>Discussion took place about the Silicon South reports.</p> <p>The Board agreed that Silicon South Papers are owned by the LEP</p> <p><b>ACTION: LC to contact Silicon South to discuss</b></p>  | <b>LC</b>         |
| <b>4.</b> | <b>FOR INFORMATION</b>  |                   |
| 4.1       | <p><b>Budget</b></p> <p>LC presented the budget for 2016/17. JW asked for clarification on new roles within LEP, LC explained that the process of recruitment for communications role had begun and the finer details being worked through. LC suggested the need for someone to help on housing and skills, and communications and that the strategy post was on hold. 2016/17 Budget was agreed by the Board.</p> <p>NAO Report states that the average LEP staff was 8. To remain competitive the LEP will need to increase capacity.</p> <p>JW asked whether we had received the final report from Jurassica, RD to chase.</p> <p><b>ACTION: RD to follow up on Jurassica Report</b></p> <p>GP spoke to the Growing Places Fund paper and the paper was discussed.</p> <p><b>Action: All agreed to support the recommendations made in the paper.</b></p> | <b>RD</b>         |
| 4.2       | <p><b>SEP Refresh</b></p> <p>LC reassured the Board that work around refreshed Strategic Vision is on target.</p>   | <b>All Agreed</b> |
| <b>5.</b> | <b>PROGRAMME MANAGEMENT</b>   |                   |
|           | <p>ORI project would like to carry funding into 2016/17 to fund consumables for the equipment they have bought. <b>All Agreed.</b></p>  | <b>All Agreed</b> |

| Item | Content   | Who |
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| 6.   | ANY OTHER BUSINESS  |     |
| 6.1  | <b>Date of Next Meeting:</b> 24 May 2016 at 1.30 pm<br>Venue: Arts University Bournemouth |     |