

DORSET LOCAL ENTERPRISE PARTNERSHIP BOARD MEETING
28 JANUARY 2020
1.30 PM TO 4.00 PM AT THE TANK MUSEUM, LINSAY ROAD, BOVINGTON, WAREHAM BH20 6JG
AGENDA

Time	Item	Subject/ Title	Presenter	Recommendation
1.30	1.	Apologies and declarations of interest	Jim Stewart	
1.35	2.	Minutes of last meeting and matters arising and Forward Plan	Jim Stewart	
1.45	3	Director's Update		For Information
	4.	Strategy		
2.00	4.1	LIS Update	Lorna Carver	1. That the LEP Board notes the content of this report. 2. That the LEP Board continues to delegate responsibility for LIS finalisation and implementation overview to the existing LIS Steering Group, with a regular progress report to the full LEP Board.
	5.	Delivery		
2.15	5.1	Delivery Update	Martina Hanulova	
	6.	Governance		
2.45	6.1	Government Update	David Lawrence	To note progress
3.00	6.2	Budget	Lorna Carver	To inform and update the board on the 2019/20 Financial position
	7.	Papers for Information		
3.15	7.1	Sub Group Updates: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Business Growth and Inward Investment update ▪ Connected Dorset 		Papers to note

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Rural Enterprise Group ▪ Skills Advisory Panel and Board 		
3.25	7.2	Communications Update		Paper to note
3.30	8.	Any Other Business		

Note: Date of Next Meeting - 26 March at 10.00 am at Bournemouth University

DRAFT MINUTES

DORSET LOCAL ENTERPRISE PARTNERSHIP BOARD

28 NOVEMBER 2019 AT 10.00 AM TO 12.00 PM

BOURNEMOUTH UNIVERSITY, FERN BARROW, POOLE, DORSET BH12 5BB

MINUTES

Board Attendees:

Andrew Wickham (AW)
Arabella Lewis-Smith (AL)
Diane Grannell (DG)
Emma Hunt (EH)
Jim Andrews (JA)
Jim Stewart (JS) (Chair)
John Sutcliffe (JSu)
Nick Brook (NB)
Nicola Newman (NN)
Paul Read (PR)
Phil Richardson (PRi)
Richard Smith (RS)
Sara Uzzell (SU)
Sophia Story (SS)
Cllr Spencer Flower (SF)

Also Present:

Aidan Dunn (AD) (Dorset Council)
Bill Cotton (BC) (BCP Council)
David Lawrence (DL) (Dorset LEP)
Finn Morgan (FM) (Dorset LEP)
Graham Farrant (GF) (BCP Council)
John Sellgren (JS) (Dorset Council)
Kathryn Hill (KH) (Dorset LEP)
Lorna Carver (LC) (Dorset LEP)
Matt Prosser (MP) Dorset Council)

Apologies:

Cllr Gary Suttle (GS)
Ian Girling (IG)
Luke Rake (LR)
Cllr Mark Howell (MH)
Nick Gaines (NG)
Cllr Vikki Slade (VS)

Item	Notes and Decisions	Action
1.	<p>Apologies were received for: Cllr Gary Suttle, Ian Girling, Luke Rake, Cllr Mark Howell, Nick Gaines and Cllr Vikki Slade.</p> <p>Declarations of Interest: DG, PR and JA declared an interest in agenda item 5.1. BCP declared an interest.</p> <p>The Board confirmed they were happy to ask Sophia Story to become director and member of the Dorset Local Enterprise Partnership CIC.</p>	
2.	<p>The Minutes were agreed as an accurate reflection of the last meeting. There were no matters arising.</p>	
3.	<p>Director's Update</p> <p>LC updated the Board on the highlights of the paper.</p> <p>LC informed the Board that the Annual Performance Review with BEIS is taking place on 21 January and that LC, JS and AD will be attending. She also informed the Board that a formal Peer Review with Humber LEP will be taking place on 17 January, facilitated by the Centre for Public Scrutiny.</p> <p>JS updated the Board on the progress with the Great South West. He explained that, since the last Board meeting, he and LC have attended 4 or 5 meetings in Exeter and he has attended a number of meetings with Jake Berry MP. He was also invited to attend a meeting at No 10, which included a meeting with the Prime Minister, who gave his pledge of support. The prospectus should be issued soon and a copy will be circulated to the Board.</p>	
4.	<p>Strategy</p>	
4.1	<p>Local Industrial Strategy Update</p> <p>LC thanked the Board for their time and all the comments that have been received in relation to the Local Industrial Strategy (LIS).</p> <p>LC explained that the LIS will be submitted to Government and that they have a nine week timeframe where it will be circulated to various departments who will provide their comments and it will then be published.</p> <p>A discussion about the latest draft of the LIS took place. It was suggested that the diagram showing the 'Dorset Collaborative Cluster' could be updated to better illustrate this and make it easier for people to understand.</p> <p>It was mentioned that the Dorset Council Cabinet meeting is taking place on the 10th December and BCP Cabinet are now meeting on 20th December.</p> <p>It was agreed the Dorset LEP/BCP Council/Dorset Council should meet to discuss the LIS further.</p> <p>Action: LC to organise a meeting with Dorset LEP/BCP Council/Dorset Council to discuss the draft LIS further.</p> <p>Recommendation 1 - it was agreed further discussions were needed with the local authorities ahead of the LIS Steering Group meeting on 18 December.</p>	<p>LC</p>

Item	Notes and Decisions	Action
4.	Strategy Cont'd	
4.1	<p>Local Industrial Strategy Update Cont'd</p> <p>The Board approved Recommendations 2, 3 and 4:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. That a final sign-off for submission to Government is delegated to the Dorset LIS Steering Group at their December 2019 meeting. 3. That any minor changes from the UK Government sign-off process are agreed by the Chair. If the Chair deems such changes to be fundamental - to bring these back to the main LEP Board as appropriate. 4. That the current LIS Steering Group becomes the provisional LIS Implementation Group pending agreement of Terms of Reference. 	The Board Approved
5.	Delivery	
5.1	<p>Delivery Update (Confidential - Commercially Sensitive)</p> <p>DL gave an update to the Board on delivery to date.</p> <p>DG left the room.</p> <p>The Board agreed Recommendation 1:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Dorset LEP Board accepts the recommendations from the Pipeline meeting and approves progressing the 4 projects identified to the due diligence review and Full Business Case stage. <p>BCP Council, JA and PRi left the room</p> <p>The Board agreed Recommendation 2:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Dorset LEP Board accepts the recommendations from the Pipeline meeting and approves progressing the 6 projects identified to the due diligence review and Full Business Case stage, should future funds become available in January 2020. 	<p>The Board approved</p> <p>The Board approved</p>
5.2	<p>Business Growth and Inward Investment Update</p> <p>FM gave an update on the Business Growth and Inward Investment group.</p> <p>FM informed that the additional funding for Brexit had been received. He would be working with DCCI and the local authorities to map the services that are being provided.</p> <p>FM updated the Board on the visit by DIT in October. This had been a great success and there have been 4 leads generated as a result.</p> <p>ACTION: FM will find out from DIT what information can be shared about the leads generated.</p>	FM

Item	Notes and Decisions	Action
5.	Delivery Cont'd	
5.3	<p>Skills Advisory Panel and Board Update</p> <p>DL updated the Board on skills and explained that the Skills Advisory Panel and the Skills Board had been combined to create the Skills Advisory Panel and Board. He explained that the agenda for this group was being driven by DfE and BEIS. He updated on the work being carried out and the data being collated.</p> <p>A discussion took place on the work being undertaken and whether, once the data received from businesses had been reviewed, this covered looking at the FE and HE providers to see if they are already providing training for skills that business say they need. EH informed that the Skills Plan is really important to Dorset and do we ask for devolved funding so we can choose our own direction. The Plan does not currently look at ESIF funding and what is being done through that.</p>	
6.	Governance	
6.1	<p>Budget (Confidential - Commercially Sensitive)</p> <p>The budget report was discussed and changes that could be made to make the report more user friendly.</p>	
6.2	<p>Governance Update</p> <p>LC gave an update on the new Governance structure and mentioned that any Board Member can go on to any of the Committees if they would like to.</p> <p>Recommendations:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Note the progress of the Governance Review. Note that this is a work in progress and we are actively concluding the open search for business representatives to complete and enhance each group. If Board Members have capacity and appetite for additional groups please get in touch with Kathryn Hill in the first instance 	
7.	Papers for Information	
7.1	<p>Sub Group Updates</p> <p>The Board noted the paper.</p> <p>Dorset Tourism Association - RS updated the Board that when the National Coastal Tourism Academy draft paper is produced a copy will be circulated to the Board.</p>	
7.2	<p>Communications Update</p> <p>The Board noted the paper.</p>	
8.	Any Other Business	
	None	

Note: Date of Next Meeting - 28 January 2020 at 1.30 pm

FORWARD PLAN

Dorset Local Enterprise Partnership Board Meetings

2020

Date and Time	Location	Items for Agenda
28 January 1.30 pm to 4.00 pm	Tank Museum, Bovington	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Delivery Update • Governance Update • Committee Updates • Communications Update • Launch LIS and review first draft of implementation plan
26 March 10.00 am to 12.30 pm	Bournemouth University	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Delivery Update • Governance Update • Committee Updates • Communications Update • Delivery Plan Update
26 May 1.30 pm to 4.00 pm	Arts University Bournemouth	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Delivery Update • Governance Update • Committee Updates • Communications Update
23 July 10.00 am to 12.30 pm	Kingston Maurward	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Delivery Update • Governance Update • Committee Updates • Communications Update
22 September 1.30 pm to 4.00 pm	Bournemouth University	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Delivery Update • Governance Update • Committee Updates • Communications Update
26 November 10.00 am to 12.30 pm	Tank Museum, Bovington	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Delivery Update • Governance Update • Committee Updates • Communications Update

DORSET LEP BOARD MEETING COVER SHEET

Meeting Date	28 January 2020	Item Number	3
Security Level:	Confidential <input type="checkbox"/>	Commercially Sensitive <input type="checkbox"/>	Unclassified <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Paper Title	Director's Update		
Recommendation	For Information		
Papers are provided for:	Decision <input type="checkbox"/>	Discussion <input type="checkbox"/>	Information <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

1. PURPOSE

Snapshot of strategic impact.

2. SUMMARY/BACKGROUND

- **Meeting with Homes for South West:** working with partners, BCP and DC we met with Homes for the South West to explore options going forwards. This was a productive meeting and future meetings are to be explored.
- **Formal Peer Review with Humber Local Enterprise Partnership:** Dorset LEP and Humber LEP will meet on 17th January for a peer review facilitated by the LEP Network and the Centre for Public Scrutiny. Dorset and Humber are the first LEPs to undertake this process.
- **Annual Performance Review:** will take place 21st January.
- **Great South West:** working across Dorset, Devon, Somerset and Cornwall a prospectus has been submitted to government for consideration.
- **Meeting with MPs:** are being arranged
- **Business growth support:** working with local, private sector partners, we have introduced two new programmes of support; Scale for Growth workshops with PKF Francis Clark and 1-2-1 business growth support sessions (25 initially). We have also put out a tender looking for a third-party provider to run a Scale-up business development programme in 2020/21.
- **Skills Survey launch:** as part of our contract with Serco around the Skills for the Workplace programme, we have launched a Skills Survey. Targeted at local employers, the aim of the survey is to engage organisations in order to identify current and future skills/training needs across the region.
- **Dorset Business Awards 2019:** LEP Board Chair, Jim Stewart and LEP Board Members Arabella Lewis-Smith and Nicola Newman attended the DBA's on 28th November on behalf of the LEP. Jim presented the award for Business Leader of the Year to Jamie Sergeant, Founder and Director of Crowd. This was the second consecutive year that Dorset LEP had sponsored the Business Leader of the Year award category.
- **One Health 2020 Aquaculture Expo, 4th March:** Planning for this national event continues with over a third of tickets now allocated. The promotion of this event will be ramped up now that we are into the new year. The re-launch of the national

Aquaculture HPO led by DIT will hopefully help boost sign-ups too. Invitations and further details will be circulated to all Board Members.

- **National Composites Centre:** A small delegation visited the National Composites Centre in Bristol to find out what support and facilities they can offer Dorset businesses. The NCC is one of the government's flagship catapult centres. Dorset-based firm Loop Technology are currently working on a project with Airbus at the NCC which will massively transform the future of aeroplane design and manufacturing. A further visit with a bigger delegation of Dorset businesses has been offered and we are in discussions about when this will take place.
- **Dorset MedTech and AI Pitch Day event:** [a video](#) from the Super Connect MedTech and AI pitch day has been uploaded to our YouTube channel. The event was very well attended and generated a number of new business connections/enquiries from businesses looking for support from the LEP/Dorset Gateway.
- **Dorset Spark 2.0:** hosted by Dorset LEP, Dorset Growth Hub and Bournemouth University, the second Dorset Spark event took place in December at Bournemouth University. Attended by 60 businesses, students and support organisations, the event provided opportunities for small, cross-disciplinary teams to find ways of addressing some of the key challenges identified in Dorset's Local Industrial Strategy.

3. RECOMMENDATION

For information

DORSET LEP BOARD MEETING COVER SHEET

Meeting Date	28 th January 2020	Item Number	4.1
Security Level:	Confidential <input type="checkbox"/>	Commercially Sensitive <input type="checkbox"/>	Unclassified <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Paper Title	The Dorset Local Industrial Strategy (LIS): Progress summary and next steps report.		
Recommendation	1. That the LEP Board notes the content of this report. 2. That the LEP Board continues to delegate responsibility for LIS finalisation and implementation overview to the existing LIS Steering Group, with a regular progress report to the full LEP Board.		
Papers are provided for:	Decision <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Discussion <input type="checkbox"/>	Information <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

1. PURPOSE

This report provides a high level overview of progress on the Dorset LIS to date and headlines next steps for the Dorset LEP and partners. Following receipt of a full conclusion report from the Rothwell consultants, who supported the LEP in the development of the draft LIS, this report considers their recommendations, LIS Steering Group feedback and notes key areas of work now required for LIS implementation.

2. SUMMARY

The Dorset LEP and its stakeholders worked in partnership to submit a draft LIS to Government in December 2019. Whilst we await full feedback on this draft, it remains important to maintain impetus and pace across our agreed priorities. As previously noted, there is every possibility that the new Government will announce investment opportunities for projects 'ready to go' in a short timeframe (perhaps linked to the March 2020 budget) and in preparation of the launch of the Shared Prosperity Fund. Dorset needs to be ambitious and give confidence on ability to deliver clearly outlined priorities that will achieve economic growth and prosperity for our local areas, the wider region and potentially at a national level. Ensuring that the Dorset 'preliminary ask' of Government is agreed, finalising the LIS documents for Government publication in around spring 2020 and gearing-up for implementation will be priorities for the first half of 2020 – feeding into our 2020/21 business planning activities in this quarter.

3. INTRODUCTION

Following a comprehensive partnership approach led by the Dorset LEP, Dorset submitted its draft LIS to Government in December 2019. We await official feedback. It is understood that the LIS process will continue whilst the new Government outlines its priorities for the parliamentary period ahead. Ensuring that Dorset submitted in a timely fashion was a priority for the Board – and was underpinned by the need to keep pace on an aligned implementation plan for Dorset, to ensure that any early opportunities for investment from the new Government can be realised. Given the likely focus on 'the North', this will be a highly competitive environment with which to realise Government investment. Therefore, articulating a clear and compelling 'ask' for Dorset is critical – either in direct dialogue with Government (and with the support of our MPs) or through an 'economy of scale' approach with our neighbours – such as the Great South West prospectus. A good strategy will not be enough. This report summaries our 'asks' – but

also begins to take forward the pace and scale of implementation that will be needed to compete effectively.

- Once finalised with Government (HMG), the Dorset LEP have a clear industrial strategy for the next 10 years, with immediate internal and external priorities identified. **The task at hand is clear.**
- The Executive have led an ambitious response to deal with the external change ahead, ensuring an effective platform to deliver against Dorset priorities. **Maintaining impetus is important. There will be significant competition for HMG investment.**
- Much of the early-stage work to enhance the team has now commenced. The LEP has built on a solid platform to support its strategic position into new areas of focus. **This shift will need strong communication locally and nationally.**
- Leadership from the senior Executive and the Board to *embed* this focus across its strategic role is still required **alongside new strategic partners.** Dorset will need a collective voice to gain the attention of a new Government.
- The LEP must now **'sweat its assets'** and make best use of the tools available – both direct and indirect. Dorset will need a clever and effective approach to make things happen and maintain momentum.

4. THE LIS STRATEGY

The Draft Dorset LIS was submitted to HMG officials in December 2020, following agreement from the LIS Steering Group and with the full support of our key stakeholders. In particular, the Cabinet's of both Unitary Councils gave their support to the LIS at their respective meetings in December 2019. We will be writing to a number of stakeholders (including other partnerships, businesses, education and public organisations) to thank them for their direct involvement and support in the development of the draft. This was a genuine partnership document. We will also be circulating (on-line) an up-dated LIS summary for information ahead of formal HMG publication.

In summary, the LIS highlights included:

1. Driving new industrial opportunities via a unique cluster of high growth sectors:

- Accelerators and digital infrastructure
- Innovation ecosystem - 'cluster-led'
- Targeted business support, skills and marketing.

2. Sustaining and expanding existing industrial strengths:

- Innovation Ecosystem 'for all'
- Dorset People & Skills Plan
- Strategic Infrastructure
- Simplified business support and investment/trade approach
- Support targeted LA economic plans in places

3. Extending economic, social and environmental impact:

- Natural and Cultural Capital plan
- Task force for skills in W&P / unlocking older talent

Collaborative Cluster & accelerator - One Health.

Collaborative Cluster & accelerator - Defence Tech and Security.

Collaborative Cluster & accelerator - Creative, Cultural and Digital

Ideas

People

Infrastructure

Business Environment

Place

We await HMG feedback on the draft. It is anticipated that the existing LIS Steering Group will oversee any edits to the LIS. Any substantial changes will be highlighted to the Board.

Once Government has published the Dorset LIS, it will be a priority to ensure effective wider communication of our priorities and how these might influence future inward

investment materials, business networks and so forth. We will aim to be creative in our approach to the communication of our ambitious priorities.

5. IMPLEMENTATION PLANNING

In parallel to the drafting of the LIS, work has already commenced on the LIS Implementation Plan. This work has encompassed the following areas of consideration:

- **Structure:** The leadership, management and integrated delivery structure required
- **Roles:** The primary responsibilities of those involved in the LIS and the role of the LIS itself including draft terms of reference where needed
- **Governance:** The alignment of LIS implementation with newly agreed LEP and stakeholder governance
- **Methodology:** Phased activity that allows effective planning and implementation, in parallel to LIS development
- **Process:** A 'push and prepare' approach that ensures immediate impact, ongoing evolution and sustained influence of LIS priorities
- **Relationships:** The mechanisms to engage and secure the support of all current and future stakeholders at local, regional or national levels
- **Communication:** The requirements of immediate LIS launch promotion aligned with the development of a new Dorset 'brand'
- **Monitoring and Evaluation:** A headline approach combining quantitative and qualitative measures that support and inform LIS implementation.

A 'long list' pipeline of potential initiatives to support the implementation of the LIS has been developed – although not yet fully appraised. This 'long list' includes over 190 potential investments across the whole area – at varying stages of readiness for delivery. We have worked closely with a number of stakeholders and integrated previously run processes led by the LEP to identify this pipeline activity.

In parallel, the LEP team itself has been 'gearing up' in readiness for this renewed focus and ambition. Directors will be aware that a 'change programme' has commenced for the Executive. The LEP review and its published results, combined with Government's policy of National and Local Industrial Strategies and more recently the proximity of Brexit and its potential impact, places increased responsibility on LEP structures and management. In response DLEP has addressed its governance structure and reviewed its organisational structure, reporting lines and ability to respond to the emerging priorities. It has developed and begun implementation of a phased plan that establishes an appropriate, agile and effective senior and operational management structure, including a distinct senior management team and aligned operational functions. The first phase of this programme should be operational by April 2020. In undertaking this work, we have worked closely with Local Authority partners as they similarly review structure and priorities going forward. Close collaboration is seeking to ensure alignment and complementarity across all resources.

6. PRIORITY ACTIVITY

There are a number of tasks which are identified as priority activities for the LEP and partners in the coming weeks – particularly during this quarter. The following are headline priorities:

- a. Ensure the continued momentum, development and progress of the Local Industrial Strategy in Dorset

- b. Lead the Government 'editing and sign-off' process and successful publication of the Dorset Local Industrial Strategy
- c. Lead the preparation of initial 'asks' of new Government – demonstrating the immediate potential and opportunity in Dorset reinforcing LIS content
- d. Ensure formal management and tactical activity is in place to support successful implementation of the Dorset Local Industrial Strategy
- e. Lead the review and finalisation of regional project and initiative list – to agree the alignment with LIS content, establish and address existing 'gaps'
- f. Lead the development, communication and promotion of the LIS to support a consistent, relevant and exciting ambition for the future of Dorset

7. RISK

A risk review has been undertaken across the continued programme of the Dorset LIS development and implementation, with a number of risk mitigation actions recommended. In summary, the high level risks are as follows:

- Delay or changes to HMG Local Industrial Strategy process.
- Momentum and pace slip on local comms and action.
- Insufficient strategic and operational (and partner) resource to effectively progress implementation planning and commencement.
- Lack of viable/investable initiatives to keep pace on implementation.

8. NEXT STEPS

Following a full review of the Rothwell handover report and recommendations, as well as the LIS Steering Group's feedback, the following are identified as critical next steps:

- Maintain the LIS Steering Group to continue to oversee final LIS publication, wider comms and LIS implementation going forward.
- Integrate any LIS activity into existing LEP governance and process where possible, including LEP Committee structure, LEP Delivery Planning and LEP performance monitoring.
- Ensure MPs and key influencers are fully briefed and 'in waiting' should they be called-upon to influence future negotiations.
- Review and appraise 'long list' of potential pipeline investments for LIS implementation.
- Identify 'early win' delivery (not requiring new investment) to maintain confidence of Dorset's ability to deliver and invest.
- Identify development priority areas which require additional commissioned work to drive development at pace – for example, the One Health agenda.
- Maintain LIS operational group to support LIS operational activity across key stakeholders.
- Maintain focus on LEP Team development – noting recruitment is underway at a senior management team level.
- Ensure areas of policy focus are in place where gaps have been identified. For example, finalising the Dorset People and Skills Plan.

DORSET LEP BOARD MEETING COVER SHEET

Meeting Date	28 January 2020	Item Number	5.1
Security Level:	Confidential <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Commercially Sensitive <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Unclassified <input type="checkbox"/>
Paper Title	Delivery Update		
Recommendation			
Papers are provided for:	Decision <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Discussion <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Information <input type="checkbox"/>

1. PURPOSE

This paper gives an overview of Dorset LEP programme delivery. It is accompanied by appendices, which are classified as confidential, due to containing commercially sensitive information:

- Appendix 1:
- Appendix 2:
- Appendix 2a:
- Appendix 3:
- Appendix 4:
- Appendix 5:

Performance and investment Committee papers can be found here:

<https://www.dorsetlep.co.uk/performance-investment-committee>

2. SUMMARY/BACKGROUND
GROWTH DEAL

Overview of spent to date / forecast for FY19/20 and 20/21

Dorset LEP management is undergoing an extensive risk management exercise with our key delivery partners in order to ensure that there is no underspend on the Growth Deal Programme as we are approaching the last year of delivery. A meeting with BCP Council is scheduled for 22nd January and we will ensure that all identified savings will be directed to the projects identified through the pipeline process.


AMBER RISK PROJECTS

SEDUMS – AECOM (BIG Programme)

AECOM is seeking approval to extend the end date of their contract by three months to May 2019 (currently ending on 31 March 2020) to enable the delivery of the South East Dorset Urban Mobility Strategy. The strategy completion has been delayed due to the late delivery of the South East Dorset Multi-Modal Transport Model, which will inform the strategy development, prepared by a separate contractor (WSP). The requested change will not have any impact on the programme or budget. The full change request can be found in Appendix 3.

This recommendation is within the delegated authority of the Performance and Investment Committee. However, this change request for received after the Committee's meeting on

the 9th January, and in order to provide a timely decision, this recommendation is submitted to the LEP Board for decision.

Recommendation:

The LEP Board to approve the AECOM's contract extension by three months, from 31 March to 31 May 2020.



POSITIVE / GREEN PROJECT UPDATES

Innovation Studio (Arts University Bournemouth)

Dorset LEP Board is to note that the Performance & Investment Committee approved a change request submitted by AUB for the Innovation Studio. The Change Request was for an extension to the project end date until 30th September 2020 (previous agreed project end date was 31st March 2020).

GROWING PLACES FUND

No recommendations are going to the Board, all recommendations were covered by the Performance and Investment Committee.

DORSET GATEWAY

No recommendations are going to the Board, all updates were covered by the Performance and Investment Committee.

DORSET INNOVATION PARK

No recommendations are going to the Board, all updates were covered by the Performance and Investment Committee.

Some of the papers for agenda Item 5.1 are not included as they are
Commercially Sensitive

DORSET LEP BOARD MEETING COVER SHEET

Meeting Date	28 January 2020	Item Number	6.1
Security Level:	Confidential <input type="checkbox"/>	Commercially Sensitive <input type="checkbox"/>	Unclassified <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Paper Title	Governance Update		
Recommendation	To note progress		
Papers are provided for:	Decision <input type="checkbox"/>	Discussion <input type="checkbox"/>	Information <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

1. PURPOSE

The last update was provided at the November 2019 Board meeting.

The report is intended to bring members up to date with the latest advances towards the completion of the agreed structure.

2. BACKGROUND/PROGRESS
Strategic Infrastructure Committee

The first meeting of the Strategic Infrastructure Committee will take place on the 11th February 2020.

This will bring together key players in a range of utility, transport, communication and housing providers as well as advisors on build quality, the public realm and contributions on land use and real estate issues, strategic communications/digital infrastructure.

There are specific spaces on the Committee for Department of Transport, Homes England, Network Rail and Highways England in addition to the two local authority Directors of Place.

Four Board Directors will attend including the Chair and the Director will also be present.

Connected Dorset (one of the Board's 'Advisory Groups' convened by BCP Council) is continuing to meet, however, there will be a distinct difference in the agendas.

Enterprise Zone

The future operation of the Enterprise Zone is within the responsibilities of Dorset Council. The Dorset LEP's interest is in the strategic development of the site and an investment strategy.

Dorset Council will convene meetings of the 'Dorset Innovation Park Management Board' concerned with the operation of the site.

Issues of strategic planning and development, future funding and business rate planning will be dealt with by the Dorset LEP's 'Dorset Innovation Park Enterprise Zone Committee' and will be reported in the 'Performance and Investment Committees' papers.

Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Having received advice from Dorset Council's Section 151 Officer (who is the accounting officer for the LEP), requests for Local Authority Members have been sent out. We have new members from the business sector. The revised date for a first meeting is the 15th March 2020.

Audit, Finance and Risk

The accounting process is serviced by Dorset Council and audited/reported within the Council's overall scheme. This will continue, however, a simplified presentation for the management accounts is being discussed with the Accounting Officer which should result in a clearer discussion at this committee and a more easily digestible presentation to the Board.

A plan for process audits/reviews will be proposed at the first meeting.

The risk assessment process has been reviewed in line with best practise. The latest version of the Risk Register utilises the methodology. A detailed challenge over programme risks takes place on a regular basis whilst awaiting the first meeting of this group.

<https://www.dorsetlep.co.uk/userfiles/files/Policies%20and%20procedures/Dorset%20LEP%20Risk%20Management%20Framework%20-%20web%20version.pdf>

A working group will take place on the scheduled date of the 20th January, however, in order to allow time for the revisions of working practises, the first full meeting is likely to take place on the 28th April 2020.

3. RECOMMENDATION

To note progress.

The papers for agenda Item 6.2 are not included as they are Commercially Sensitive

DORSET LEP BOARD MEETING COVER SHEET

Meeting Date	28 January 2020	Item Number	7.1
Security Level:	Confidential <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Commercially Sensitive <input type="checkbox"/>	Unclassified <input type="checkbox"/>
Paper Title	Dorset LEP Business Growth and Inward Investment update		
Recommendation	For information		
Papers are provided for:	Decision <input type="checkbox"/>	Discussion <input type="checkbox"/>	Information <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

1. PURPOSE

To brief the board on activities and developments relating to business growth and inward investment and current activity within the key sectors across Dorset.

2. SUMMARY/BACKGROUND

This report supports the DLEP's strategic objective for business growth and attracting inward investment to increase employment opportunity and raise productivity of businesses across the region.

This paper aligns with Dorset LEP's governance structure and will reflect those areas that are overseen by the Business Growth and Inward Investment (BG&I) Committee.

Inward investment is achieved through the delivery of the Memorandum of Understanding for foreign direct investment in partnership with the Department for International Trade (Investment Services Team).

2.1 Business Growth and Inward Investment (BG&I) Committee

The notes and actions from the BG&I Committee meeting held on 11 December are available on the [Dorset LEP's website](#). The key areas of discussion included:

- Supporting the implementation of Dorset's Local Industrial Strategy (LIS);
- Internationalisation of the region to support business growth and attract investment; and
- The mapping of the current business support landscape in Dorset.

This was the first full meeting of the committee since the will take place on 11 March 2019.

2.2 Brexit update

Following the outcome of the general election in December 2019, we are now advising businesses that the UK will be leaving EU on 31st January. New messaging about the transition period and arrangements is awaited along with advice on how the withdrawal agreement will affect business. However, the 'Get ready' for Brexit campaign has been formally wound-up and, as such, all branding, messaging and

other communications are not to be used and have been removed from our online content.

In addition, all 'no deal messaging' is being stood down from 31st January and there will be no further information about 'no deal' preparation released by the government. We have been advised that any references to a 'no deal' should cease, with businesses directed to the government's '.Gov.uk' website for further information and updates.

The EU Exit Business Intelligence and Readiness Directorate (BIRD) will be providing webinar updates for Growth Hub Advisors, with first webinar scheduled for the 22 January.

Growth Hubs are likely to see a shift in focus away from Brexit specifically to focusing on local business intelligence and resilience instead.

We have continued to provide weekly business intelligence updates to the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS) on the impacts of Brexit on the Dorset economy. Feedback from BEIS has been that they have found the local place-based intelligence extremely valuable in helping them interpret/evaluate national data and they are keen to see this continue. However, reporting may be reduced to fortnightly for the foreseeable future, but this is to be confirmed.

Dorset LEP – via the Dorset Gateway – has worked (and will continue to work) closely with other local business support bodies, intermediaries and local authorities to ensure that the range of services and support offered to businesses is coordinated and an exemplar for other regions. The Brexit Business Advisor post, which is being funded by Dorset Council and BCP Council is now in place and is located in the Dorset Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

2.3 Business Growth Support

Dorset Gateway launched a fully funded series of 1-2-1 business support sessions (approx. 2 hours) in January. Delivered by Empiric Partners LLP's expert Growth Advisers, this is an opportunity for local businesses to access external, professional advice. In particular, we will be gathering intelligence from key local businesses on sector specific barriers to growth, including concerns relating to the UK's exit from the EU.

In addition, in December we announced that we are joining forces with PKF Francis Clark Chartered Accountants and Business Advisors, to deliver an informative series of seminars aimed at scale up businesses. Research conducted by the Scale-Up institute has shown that scale-up businesses are on average more productive, innovative and create more high-quality jobs than less ambitious businesses. The Scale-Up Institute's 2018 Scale-Up Review showed that there were more than 380 scale-up business in Dorset, yet only 50 or so of those companies were visible i.e. had to submit public accounts. This is one of the reasons why we are seeking to encourage growing local businesses to come forward and receive free advice and support and to connect with other businesses who are in a similar stage of development.

Coupled with this, we have also published a tender seeking a partner organisation to run a dedicated, year-long scale-up business development programme. This programme will run for a year between April 2020 and March 2021. The closing date for applications is 31st January 2020.

2.4 Inward Investment

a. Aerospace

iAero

Dorset LEP Board Member, John Sutcliffe, now represents Dorset LEP on the iAero Board. A new strategy for the group is being written by the Board's Chair, Dave Best (Airbus), Chair. iAero is led by the UK aerospace 'primes' and the West of England Aerospace Forum (WEAF) with support of the LEPs. The group is due to meet during the early part of 2020 to consider the new strategy, amongst other items.

South West Aerospace

In light of the work that taking place to prioritise support and key sector development, Dorset has given notice that it will not be a participating partner in Farnborough International Air Show 2020 and associated promotional activity for year 2020/21. Our participation as a region will be reviewed next year once the respective economic development strategies and the Local Industrial Strategy are in place.

b. Aquaculture

South West Sustainable Aquaculture Network

The first meeting of this group was held on 10th December 2019, Plymouth Marine Laboratory. The Second meeting of the group will take place on 19th February 2020 at Kingston Maurward College.

One Health: Aquaculture Expo 2020

Planning for the One Health: Aquaculture Expo 2020 has continued with over a third of tickets for the event allocated. The Aquaculture Expo will provide a showcase for Dorset-based aquaculture companies, CEFAS, FLAG and will be held at Kingston Maurward.

c. AgriTech

AgriTech CPD event, 27th November 2019 at Kingston Maurward College

Organised by Dorset Council, this event will aim promote agritech skills and careers to teachers and link governors. James Townshend, Velcourt and Dorset Ambassador, will present the key note address. The event will also include a Market Place to promote various aspects of the sector together with a full tour of Kingston Maurward College's facilities and the Kingston AgriTech Building.

2.5 Department for International Trade

High Potential Opportunity (HPO) for Inward Investment – Aquaculture

As reported at the last Board meetings, we have been notified by the DIT's HPO team that further work will be done to promote the Aquaculture HPO that Dorset received back in May, which will include additional marketing material and coverage. It has been agreed that a 'landing page' on the government's GREAT campaign website specific to the HPO will be created, similar to the one created for the West Midlands' [High productivity food production](#) HPO. In addition, there will also be a targeted LinkedIn campaign which will point people towards the GREAT landing page. We are still awaiting publication of our own page on the government's GREAT website but we are advised that this is imminent and will be ahead of the next round of HPO calls in the which is due to be announced shortly.

Future DIT Engagement in Dorset

Following the successful visit from the DIT's Advanced Engineering and Manufacturing Investment Services Team (IST) in October, an invitation will be extended for the Maritime Lead, Mick Essex to visit both Port of Poole and Portland Port – subject to consultation with the respective Chief Executives. Representatives from the DIT's IST will be also be in attendance at the OH20: Aquaculture Expo in March.

3. RECOMMENDATION

For information.

DORSET LEP BOARD MEETING COVER SHEET

Meeting Date	28/01/20	Item Number	7.1
Security Level:	Confidential <input type="checkbox"/>	Commercially Sensitive <input type="checkbox"/>	Unclassified <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Paper Title	Connected Dorset Group		
Recommendation	That the DLEP Board continue to support the development of the Western Gateway STB.		
Papers are provided for:	Decision <input type="checkbox"/>	Discussion <input type="checkbox"/>	Information <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

1. PURPOSE

To update the main DLEP Board on activities undertaken by the Connected Dorset Group.

2. SUMMARY/BACKGROUND
Western Gateway STB
Strategic Transport Plan

The Shadow sub national transport body (STB) Western Gateway is developing a Strategic Transport Plan for the period of 2020-2025 for the partnership area. This is to provide clarity regarding our role in the decision making and scheme promotion processes, raise awareness with stakeholders, promote our USP & articulate our Sub-national narrative to government and to demonstrate assurance to the DfT that we can work as a collective.

Two rounds of consultation are planned to ensure all stakeholders are given the opportunity to comment – the issues and options consultation will take place from 23rd March – 4 May for 6 weeks. Approval for this will be given to undertake the consultation at the board meeting on the 4th March. Consultation on the strategy document is planned for June / July – with approval sought from the board on the 18th June. By September 2020 we will have our inaugural Strategic Transport Plan.

The initial draft consultation document is being developed now but will remain high level and strategic. Plan is likely to focus on 5 strategic corridors and 3 urban hubs (of which one is SE Dorset) within the Gateway area.

Rail Strategy

Western Gateway is developing a Rail Strategy, which will set out our strategic, regional priorities for government investment in the rail network. WSP have been appointed to deliver this work.

This is different to the ongoing Dorset Rail CMSP (Continuous Modular Strategic Plan) which is led by Network Rail, focussing on more local needs and commences in April. The WG Rail Strategy is making good progress - sub-group of officers from the member authorities has been established. WSP are reviewing 50+ documents and background

reports supplied by the sub-group. This Literature Review will help steer the Conditional Outputs.

WSP has hosted a two rail industry stakeholder workshops. The southern event was in Poole in October, and the northern event in Bristol during early November. Representatives from the Train Operating Companies (TOCs), adjoining SSTBs, and local authorities were present at both events.

Updates will follow but expected delivery date for Phase 1 is March 2020 (this will identify priorities but not detailed schemes). Phase 2 would provide the schemes to deliver the strategy but this is currently unfunded by WG board and is subject to Phase 1 outputs.

Port Access Study

It is important to ensure the Ports in the Gateway area are well connected to the national & International transport networks to maintain their long-term viability.

This study is intended to identify existing and likely future transport deficits accessing ports and airports within the Western Gateway area. Where transport issues are identified these will inform the production of the future Strategic Transport Plan. Those ports and airports that will be considered within the study include:

- Bristol Airport
- Bournemouth Airport
- Staverton Airport (Gloucestershire)
- Bristol (Avonmouth Docks and Royal Portbury Dock)
- Poole
- Sharpness
- Portland
- Southampton

The final report will provide a profile for each of the ports, a local and national policy review and an understanding of future aspirations in terms risks, challenges, growth aspirations and identify where transport is viewed as a barrier. The final report is due at the end of February and will be presented to the Board in March.

Atkins are currently undertaking interviews with Port operators.

MRN/SRN Schemes

We are expecting an announcement from government in the next few weeks on what will be funded through the new MRN funding block. Wessex Fields was withdrawn from this round due to a review of scheme being requested by Alliance.

On the Strategic Road Network (trunk roads), we are expecting an announcement from government just after the budget (11 March) on which trunk roads will be getting a strategic study into improvement options.

3. RECOMMENDATION

That the DLEP Board continue to support the development of the Western Gateway STB.

DORSET LEP BOARD MEETING COVER SHEET

Meeting Date	28/01/20	Item Number	7.1
Security Level:	Confidential <input type="checkbox"/>	Commercially Sensitive <input type="checkbox"/>	Unclassified <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Paper Title	Up-date from the DLEP Rural Enterprise Group (REG)		
Recommendation	The Board is asked to note the report and the recommendations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The REG requests for a regular, named and dedicated member of the LEP team to attend and provide secretariat for the meeting and would ask the Director to acknowledge and action this. • Strong recommendation to LEP and government to enable Shared Prosperity Fund to have local context, funding for revenue rather than simply capital, and an equivalent aim to the various ESIF funding pots. 		
Papers are provided for:	Decision <input type="checkbox"/>	Discussion <input type="checkbox"/>	Information <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

1. PURPOSE

To provide the Board with an update on the work of the Rural Enterprise Group.

2. SUMMARY/BACKGROUND
Rural Enterprise Group (REG) meeting – 10th December 2019

- 1.1 Local Industrial Strategy – The group had fed into this process and was pleased to see environment, and rural, featuring prominently. With the development of the Unitary Authorities this enables greater clarity for the LEP and the REG to feed into the rural opportunity for Dorset.
- 1.2 The meeting reviewed the workplan and agreed that with the development of the new unitary authorities, a more convening opportunity and thematic strategic development of the group should be pursued. LR to draft.
- 1.3 The group noted the presence of the representatives from the new Rural Authority, but again noted the absence of any LEP officer. Records suggest that in 2019 only one LEP officer, on a single occasion in May, attended the REG. This does not help the perception that the LEP is BCP-centric, nor does it help the REG support the LEP effectively.
- 1.4 **European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD)**: it was noted that this continues to be fully allocated.
- 1.5 **LEADER** This process has now come to a close with full allocations. Celebratory event held at KMC during Autumn 2019.

3. RECOMMENDATION

- The REG requests for a regular, named and dedicated member of the LEP team to attend and provide secretariat for the meeting and would ask the Director to acknowledge and action this.
- LEADER - Strong recommendation to LEP and government to enable Shared Prosperity Fund to have local context, funding for revenue rather than simply capital, and an equivalent aim to the various ESIF funding pots.

DORSET LEP BOARD MEETING COVER SHEET

Meeting Date	28 January 2020	Item Number	7.1
Security Level:	Confidential <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Commercially Sensitive <input type="checkbox"/>	Unclassified <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Paper Title	Skills Advisory Panel and Board		
Recommendation	To note progress		
Papers are provided for:	Decision <input type="checkbox"/>	Discussion <input type="checkbox"/>	Information <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

1. PURPOSE

The last update was provided at the November 2019 Board meeting.

The report is intended to bring members up to date with the latest advances towards the development of the People and Skills Plan in support of the Local Industrial Strategy.

2. PROGRESS.
The Skills Advisory Panel and Board.

The SAP&Board next meets on the 11th February 2020. This meeting will include the expanded membership of business people who received a briefing on the 5th December 2019.

The SAP&Board will consider the shortened version of the Skills Data Report and the first draft of the People and Skills Plan. Both documents are intended to further develop the debate over the next steps – which will include what positive actions are required.

We are yet to hear from DfE colleagues on the quality & scope of the data sources we have used. Feedback should be provided during the week commencing 20th January. We have been fortunate to be able to gain access to the DfE Data Cube which contains all of the data on activities and placements funded by the Skills Funding Agency the Further Education Funding Agency – such as student utilization of the colleges in the Dorset LEP area and all the ‘Apprenticeships’. The full extent of this information is still becoming apparent as it’s explored. The full utility of the data base may only become obvious as we bring more expertise in data manipulation to bear on the subject.

The ‘Employer Skills Survey’ of companies in Dorset was released on the 16th January 2020. The promotion of the survey is being undertaken by the Dorset LEP, the Dorset Chamber and the local authorities. The timescale for completion is relatively short – 4th February – so that the results can be bled into the People and Skills Plan deliberations. Unfortunately the tight timescales have become unavoidable.

Careers and Enterprise Company (CEC) Programme

Progress with the CEC Programme is reported in the Performance and Investment Group report.

3. RECOMMENDATION

To note progress.

DORSET LEP BOARD MEETING COVER SHEET

Meeting Date	28 January 2020	Item Number	7.2
Security Level:	Confidential <input type="checkbox"/>	Commercially Sensitive <input type="checkbox"/>	Unclassified <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Paper Title	PR & Communications Activity – November and December 2019		
Recommendation	<p>Board to highlight future stakeholder engagement activity (visits, meetings etc.)</p> <p>Board member organisations communications colleagues to publicise the work of Dorset LEP as appropriate - including the Great South West prospectus and Skills Survey.</p> <p>Suggestions for LIS blog content and authors</p>		
Papers are provided for:	Decision <input type="checkbox"/>	Discussion <input type="checkbox"/>	Information <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

1. PURPOSE

To update the board on strategic PR and communications activity during November and December.

2. SUMMARY

Cornerstone Employers & Careers Hub launch (Skills)

These were the top tweets for November and December respectively, with a broad range of engagement from local businesses, the councils and education providers. The Careers Hub launch was well attend and a successful event - interviews were filmed and we'll soon be sharing these to further highlight the work of the Careers Hub and role of the Enterprise Advisors.



Dorset LEP @DorsetLEP

Thanks to everyone who came to the Dorset Careers Hub launch today @WPNSA. With this new Careers Hub, and with support from @CareerEnt and @DorsetCEC, #Dorset aspires to be one of the best areas in the country for careers education. #C4DC #careers #inspiringdorset

Dorset Gateway and 7 others

5:07 PM · Nov 8, 2019 · Twitter Web App

4 Retweets 21 Likes



Dorset LEP @DorsetLEP

Meet Dorset Careers Hub's new cornerstone employers who are joining forces to help prepare young people for the world of work. Find out more: bit.ly/35E3Gxs

The Careers & Enterprise Company and 9 others

3:49 PM · Nov 26, 2019 · Twitter Web App

10 Retweets 23 Likes

Super Connect (Dorset Gateway)

Sponsoring this event provided a great opportunity to bring Dorset based start-up's and more established organisations together. It also provided us with opportunity to interview a local start-up to talk about the benefits of establishing a tech business in Dorset. Watch the video:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZNwQExOayKc>

Weymouth College Centre of Excellence for Motor Vehicle opened (GPF)

The opening of the centre was a highlight for our Local Growth Deal funded project comms activity, and it was great to have Dorset LEP board representation from Ian Girling, particularly as purdah was in effect meaning Richard Drax MP was stood down.



Blogs (LIS)

The blog by Jamie Sergent discussing the need for a brand for Dorset was well engaged with across regional media outlets. This is the style of thought leadership content we want to continue as we share the narrative of Dorset, the Local Industrial Strategy and the GSW region.

3. COVERAGE AND ANALYTICS

Dorset LEP website - key statistics

	November/ December	September / October	July/August	May / June	March / April
Number of sessions	5,019	7,519	8,361	7,708	7,442
Number of page views	25,036	21,209	38,330	24,196	19,871
Users	5,019	5,238	5,514	5,016	5,179
New users	4,591	4,624	5,034	4,540	4,702

Most popular pages visited in November & December (page views):

- Dorset LEP Homepage (3,009)
- Investment Projects (1,284)
- Dorset Innovation Park (785)
- Board Members (590)
- The Team (484)
- Local Industrial Strategy (437)
- Businesses based in Dorset (435)
- News: Norco GRP build at Dorset Innovation Park (325)
- Investment projects – LGF filter (320)

Press releases, statements and announcements

- [Dorset Gateway: Scale-Up Business Development Tender Open For Applications](#) (20 December)
[We're recruiting](#) (17 December)
[Dorset Gateway: Custom Broker Services Tender Open For Applications](#) (17 December)
[Jamie Sergeant – Dorset Brand Will Attract Investment](#) (13 December)
[Funding Opportunities](#) (29 November)
[Dorset Business Awards 2019](#) (29 November)
[DBA Finalist – Martin Edwards](#) (27 November)
[DBA Finalist – Marianne Storey](#) (26 November)
[At The Cornerstone Of Careers Education](#) (26 November)
[DBA Finalist – Jamie Sergeant](#) (25 November)
[Norco GRP Build At Dorset Innovation Park](#) (18 November)
[Weymouth College Completes Hybrid And Electric Motor Facility Upgrade](#) (15 November)
[Dorset Careers Hub Launches](#) (13 November)
[ESFA Community Training Grants Available!](#) (12 November)
[How The Health Of Our Workforce Influences Dorset's Economic Growth](#) (7 November)
[Super Connect Series Returns To Bournemouth](#) (5 November)

Media /stakeholder coverage

Date	Outlet	Tone	Title and link
05-Nov	Dorset Biz News	Positive	Global leader among companies highlighted to top government team during visit to Dorset
13-Nov	Dorset Biz News	Positive	What a match: Super Connect event to bring tech start-ups and investors together at BU
14-Nov	Dorset Biz News	Positive	New careers hub launched bringing together schools, colleges, universities and employers
16-Nov	Dorset Echo	Positive	Dorset Careers Hub launched in Weymouth and Portland
16-Nov	Dorset Echo	Positive	Weymouth College opens Centre of Excellence for Motor Vehicle Technology
18-Nov	Dorset Biz News	Positive	New jobs and 13 year defence contract as fifth production facility takes shape for Norco GRP
18-Nov	Dorset Biz News	Positive	Weymouth College on the road to success after opening new motor vehicle technology centre
18-Nov	Dorset Chamber	Positive	Weymouth College completes hybrid and electric motor facility upgrade
19-Nov	Wessex FM	Positive	Home grown company moves into Dorset Innovation Park
20-Nov	Wessex FM	Positive	Weymouth College officially opens new motor vehicle workshop facilities
21-Nov	Bournemouth Echo	Positive	New company for Purbeck employment park
23-Nov	Insider Media	Positive	Work underway on production facility at Dorset Innovation Park
26-Nov	The Business Magazine	Positive	Weymouth College completes hybrid and electric motor facility upgrade
28-Nov	Dorset Council Newsletter	Positive	In Print

30-Nov	Bournemouth Echo	Positive	GALLERY: The winners of the 2019 Dorset Business Awards
02-Dec	Dorset Business Focus	Positive	Dorset Business Focus 2019
06-Dec	Bournemouth Echo	Positive	BCP Council approve rope knot sculpture in Poole
11-Dec	Bournemouth Echo	Negative	What people think of Poole's proposed rope knot sculpture (Clue: it's not complimentary.)
13-Dec	Dorset Echo	Neutral	Councillor slams parts of council's industrial strategy as 'woeful' on climate change
15-Dec	Bournemouth Echo	Positive	Inside plans for a £1.3m 'smart place' trial that could bring 5G to the Lansdowne as early as next year
18-Dec	Gillingham News	Positive	Gillingham Growth transport project
23-Dec	Bournemouth Echo	Positive	£3.4million transport improvement scheme to begin in North Dorset town next year

Social media highlights

Overall, engagement with Dorset LEP social media is growing, we are gaining followers but have experienced an expected trough in December.

Twitter

	December	November	October	September
Tweet impressions	21.1K	41.6K	39.8k	33.5k
Profile visits	233	556	529	424
New followers	11	23	34	39
Mentions	41	106	78	51

Social statistics are unsurprisingly down in December. This was due to the Christmas holiday and therefore the lack of tweets. There were 14 tweets posted in December, compared to 26 in November and 33 in October.

4. FORTHCOMING EVENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

29 Jan	PKF Breakfast event
12 Feb	Sponsored event: Resourcing the future for wildlife in Dorset
26 Feb	PKF Breakfast event
4 March	One Health 2020: Aquaculture Expo
5 March	PKF Owner managed business event
End of March	Scheduled completion of BIG Programme, Gillingham access to Growth Programme, Holes Bay, Lansdowne Business District, Wallisdown Road

5. RECOMMENDATION

- Board to highlight future stakeholder engagement activity (visits, meetings etc.)
- Board member organisations communications colleagues to publicise the work of Dorset LEP as appropriate - including the Great South West prospectus and Skills Survey.
- Suggestions for LIS blog content and authors