

DORSET LOCAL ENTERPRISE PARTNERSHIP BOARD MEETING
27 SEPTEMBER 2022 AT 1.30 PM TO 4.00 PM
ZOOM MEETING
AGENDA

Item	Subject/Title	Presenter	Recommendations
1.	Apologies and declarations of interest	Cecilia Buffon	
2.	Guest Presentation		
2.1	Options for a Dorset Economic, Labour Market and Social Insight Programme	Mike Spicer	To note the recommendations in the paper
2.2	Board Governance Review and Dorset Business Council	Sandra Rothwell	<p>It is recommended the Dorset LEP Board agrees to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The revisions to corporate governance outlined in the paper • The outline strategic governance structure outlined in the paper, subject to further discussion with Local Authorities • The creation of a task and finish group to design a Dorset Business Council • Work alongside Dorset Council to review governance arrangements for the Dorset Enterprise Zone (Dorset Innovation Park).
2.4	A303 Update	Cecilia Buffon	Presentation
2.5	Weymouth College update	Julia Howe	Presentation
2.6	Higher Education Institute Update: Bournemouth University	Jim Andrews	Presentation
3.	For Information / To Note		
3.1	Interim Directors Update	Corrina Osborne	To note the corporate risk register
3.2	Chair's update	Cecilia Buffon	Verbal Update

3.3	Finance, Audit and Corporate Risk Committee	May Palmer	It is recommended the Board: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> notes the 2022/23 financial position to date notes the Corporate Risk Register
3.4	Performance and Investment Committee	Nicola Newman	To note the recommendations in the paper
3.5	Business Growth and Inward Investment	Rebecca Davies	None – for information only
3.6	Skills Advisory Panel and Board	Luke Rake	None – for information only
3.7	Minutes of last meeting and matters arising	Cecilia Buffon	
4.	Any Other Business		

Note: Date of Next Meeting - 24 November 2022

LEP BOARD MEMBER KNOWN CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

Board Member	Project Name
Drew Mellor, BCP Council	Careers and Enterprise Company - Enterprise Advisor Network
	Careers and Enterprise Company - Careers Hub
Ian Girling, Dorset Chamber Of Commerce and Industry	Dorset Gateway - Custom Brokerage Service
	Dorset Gateway - Peer Network
	Dorset Gateway - EU Transition - International Trade Support
John Beesley, BCP Council	Careers and Enterprise Company - Enterprise Advisor Network
	Careers and Enterprise Company - Careers Hub
Luke Rake, Kingston Maurward College	Getting Building Fund - University Centre and Rural Business Hub
	Growing Places Fund - The Barn
Spencer Flower, Dorset Council	Getting Building Fund - Fibre Hub Connectivity in Rural Dorset
	Growing Places Fund - Ultrafast Broadband
	Careers and Enterprise Company - Enterprise Advisor Network
	Careers and Enterprise Company - Careers Hub
Tony Ferrari, Dorset Council	Getting Building Fund - Fibre Hub Connectivity in Rural Dorset
	GPF – Growing Places Fund - Ultrafast Broadband
	Careers and Enterprise Company - Enterprise Advisor Network
	Careers and Enterprise Company - Careers Hub

The papers for agenda Item 2.1 are not included as they are Commercially Sensitive

DORSET LEP MEETING COVER SHEET

Meeting Date	27-09-22	Item Number	2.2
Security Level:	Confidential <input type="checkbox"/>	Commercially Sensitive <input type="checkbox"/>	Unclassified <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Paper Title	Dorset Local Enterprise Partnership Governance Review: Further refinement		
Recommendations	It is recommended the Dorset LEP Board agrees to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The revisions to corporate governance outlined in the paper • The outline strategic governance structure outlined in the paper, subject to further discussion with Local Authorities • The creation of a task and finish group to design a Dorset Business Council • Work alongside Dorset Council to review governance arrangements for the Dorset Enterprise Zone (Dorset Innovation Park). 		
Papers are provided for:	Decision <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Discussion <input type="checkbox"/>	Information <input type="checkbox"/>

1. PURPOSE

In September 2022 the Dorset LEP Nominations and Remuneration Committee approved the further refinements proposed to the Dorset LEP governance structure outlined in this paper and recommended these for Board approval.

This paper outlines the further proposed changes to the governance structure - considering agreed restructuring which has already taken place, as well as a structure which meets agreed priorities for the next three years, revised core budgets and a flexible approach to a changing economic landscape at both national and local levels. This is whilst retaining a clear focus as an organisation which ensures a business voice in local decision making.

2. BACKGROUND

The Dorset LEP Board previously discussed as part of the delivery planning process, a range of implications from the recent National LEP Review, including revised core funding for LEPs and objectives outlined in the Levelling Up White paper concerning future Government investment and priorities for local devolution.

These considerations highlighted the need for a refreshed governance structure for Dorset LEP which, following Board approval, was initialised from June 2022. Changes included moving responsibility for local infrastructure committees, such as Connected Dorset, as well as the secretariat function for groups such as the Dorset Tourism Association and Enterprise Zone Committee to Local Authorities. It also included the merging of the Performance & Investment Committee into the Finance, Audit & Corporate Risk Committee from September 2022.

As further detail has emerged through conversations with Government representatives, other LEPs and our Local Authorities, further refinements to the governance structure are recommended. These are based on principles agreed previously at the March and May Board meetings.

3. RECOMMENDED REFINEMENTS

To support a wider engagement across the Dorset business community, a new arrangement is proposed with the purpose of achieving both breadth and depth of the business voice, maintaining the LEP's private sector credibility and independence in influencing local decision making, as well as a more strategic, commissioning role.

A. Establish a Dorset Business Council

Dorset LEP currently draws on private sector representation across a range of groups and committees to provide a business voice in local decision making. Sometimes these representatives are also Dorset LEP Board Directors – at other times they are not. Whilst the level of private sector engagement is positive, feedback highlights a lack of clarity of two-way messaging; both influencing content of debate and communicating the outcomes of discussions to a wider audience.

Whilst the Dorset Ambassadors Programme was refreshed within the last three years, there has been a significant change in landscape and somewhat of a hiatus during Covid. There is an opportunity to evolve the Dorset Ambassadors into a broader role, providing the breadth and depth of direct business engagement in local decision-making, taking the form of a 'Business Council' comprising business 'champions' for Dorset. It is recommended that a process-lite approach is taken.

The Dorset LEP executive will need to maintain regular and useful communications (primarily digital) across such a Business Council to ensure wide understanding and continued active engagement.

Businesses would be representing the Dorset LEP, rather than 'individual interests', across a range of formal and informal meetings/groups. This would not be a membership body and clear terms of reference would be established to avoid any conflict of interest situations for business. **The primary function will be to ensure the best business representation to influence local, and regional where appropriate, decision-making.**

To develop an approach which works best for business, it is recommended that a small task and finish group of private sector volunteers, with LEP executive support, is established to take forward the design of the Business Council by end of 2022.

B. Establish a Dorset Economic Insight Board

To support Dorset stakeholders in strategic decision making and to establish an economic 'think tank' function supporting effective business-led insight and 'intelligent commissioning' alongside public partners, it is recommended that a stand-alone Board is created, with executive support provided by the LEP. A study is currently underway to scope out the remit of this function.

C. Establish a Dorset Business Growth Board

It is recommended that the current 'Business Growth and Inward Investment Board' is revised to focus on a more specific role, alongside both Councils and identified strategic organisations, in an intelligent commissioning capacity.

The Business Growth Board could adopt an agile approach to smart commissioning through a series of 'task and finish' issue-based working groups to take forward areas of priority.

It should be noted that there will be separate programme structures created by both Councils in Dorset to oversee the UK Shared Prosperity Funds (UKSPF) in each area (Local Partnership Groups). However, there is appetite to discuss opportunities to add value for the business facing priorities in this programme with alignment to a revised LEP Business Growth Commissioning Board.

D. Dorset Enterprise Zone

In the last 12 months a number of important pieces of work have been taken forward to provide more impetus for growth at the Park. These include:

- A revised (2021) 'Strategy and Implementation 4 Year Plan'.
- In June 2022 Dorset Council Cabinet approved a significant 4-year investment fund (circa £11.5m) to align to the 4 year plan, plus £3.1m for delivery of 10 new industrial units.
- In July 2022 the new post of 'Head of Growth and Economic Regeneration' (Nick Webster) started in role. One of the early priorities (first 6 months) of this post is to take forward the successful delivery of growth at the Innovation Park.

It is recommended that Dorset LEP works alongside Dorset Council to review governance arrangements.

E. Refresh Dorset LEP Board

The Board agreed as part of the 2022/23 Delivery Plan to a Board composition review, including a skills audit, in light of the various changes over the last year and this will begin in late September 2022. As per the presentation given to the Board in March 2022, it is proposed that given the establishment of the Dorset Business Council and other groups detailed in this paper, the Board is refined to be proportionate and focused on the corporate function and agreeing high level strategic direction.

It is recommended that the Board is reduced to form a strategic and corporate-focused Board, ensuring appropriate economic leadership and the status of a Community Interest Company. In a revised governance structure, the LEP Board would be targeted to agreeing high level strategic direction for the Dorset economy and ensuring the company's prosperity by collectively directing the company's affairs. It is also anticipated that given the LEP's use of public funds, a commitment to run the company under Nolan Principles will remain.

Following the Board composition review, key documents such as the Articles of Association and Local Assurance Framework will need to be updated and the former must be formally agreed at a general meeting of the CIC. As part of the review, recommendations will also be given to the Chair remuneration status.

4. SUMMARY

The revised and simplified future LEP governance structure outlined in this paper could be delivered within LEP budgets for the 3 year business plan period (2022-5).

Whilst on-going discussions on **devolution** are outside the remit of this paper, it should be noted that the revised structure described above could morph quickly and easily into any future devolution governance.

Next Steps:

- Further discussion with the Councils will take place to ensure maximum impact through strategic and operational alignment.
- A task and finish group will be established in October 2022 to develop a Dorset Business Council.
- A LEP Board skills audit and review will commence in November 2022.
- A revised structure would be gradually put in place with completion in quarter one, 2023 – under the leadership of the new Dorset LEP Executive Director.

5. RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended the Dorset LEP Board agrees to:

- The revisions to corporate governance outlined in the paper
- The outline strategic governance structure outlined in the paper, subject to further discussion with Local Authorities
- The creation of a task and finish group to design a Dorset Business Council
- Work alongside Dorset Council to review governance arrangements for the Dorset Enterprise Zone (Dorset Innovation Park).

DORSET LEP BOARD MEETING COVER SHEET

Meeting Date	27-09-22	Item Number	3.1
Security Level:	Confidential <input type="checkbox"/>	Commercially Sensitive <input type="checkbox"/>	Unclassified <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Paper Title	Interim Directors Update		
Recommendation	To note the corporate risk register.		
Papers are provided for:	Decision <input type="checkbox"/>	Discussion <input type="checkbox"/>	Information <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

1. PURPOSE

This paper provides the Board with a snapshot of some of the activity undertaken since July that is not captured elsewhere, noting that significant work has been undertaken around the economic insights piece, as well as the governance structure refresh in addition to skills funding bids and various committees continuing to meet, all of which have papers elsewhere in the paper pack. The corporate risk register can be found in Appendix 1.

2. SUMMARY/BACKGROUND
Great South West (GSW) Partnership

As reported previously, the Government has committed £1.5 million in core funding over the next three years to the GSW and its activities. In collaboration with our GSW partners we continue to progress a robust business case to secure this long-term investment for our region along with various associated engagement events.

Sector activity

Highlights of the range of sector strategic activity engaged in and planned, can be found in Appendix 2. We are also participating in a range of LEP Network sector groups including Net Zero, Agri-Food, Coastal and Rural.

Work continues on the GSW partnership's DEFRA Future Farming Resilience Scale Up bid £2.6m funding award and we have offered support to Dorset Council with regards to regional rural innovation as part of a Rural Prosperity Funding Bid (this scheme is available only to Local Authorities). Examples of sector specific activity include the launch of an invitation to tender to create a Dorset Defence Investment Prospectus and work underway to map out the One Health ecosystem in Dorset.

Other activity

We continue to participate in other activity such as the British Business Bank South West Investment Fund Roundtables, activity for the Association of Directors of Environment, Economy, Planning & Transport (ADEPT), participate as a BCP Council Extra Care Housing Steering Group member and engage with local MPs.

3. RECOMMENDATION

To note the corporate risk register.

DORSET LEP BOARD MEETING COVER SHEET

Meeting Date	27-09-22	Item Number	3.3
Security Level:	Confidential <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Commercially Sensitive <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Unclassified <input type="checkbox"/>
Paper Title	Finance, Audit & Corporate Risk Committee Update		
Recommendation	It is recommended the Board: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • notes the 2022/23 financial position to date • notes the Corporate Risk Register. 		
Papers are provided for:	Decision <input type="checkbox"/>	Discussion <input type="checkbox"/>	Information <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

1. PURPOSE

The purpose of this paper is to provide an update as to the content of the last Committee meeting in August 2022.

2. SUMMARY/BACKGROUND
2022/23 finance report

The Committee reviewed the 2022/23 financial position to date which covered 1 April to 11 August (Appendix 1). The Committee were reminded that no change to forecast has been made as the Board approved the budget in June and therefore no significant changes had occurred, but it was noted that expenditure was expected to increase at a much faster rate as a result. The Committee recommended the Board notes the 2022/23 financial position to date.

Corporate Risk Register

The Committee reviewed the corporate risk register which includes key risks around staffing, finances and engagement but had no significant changes since the last meeting, aside from the risk around the vacant Director post which was now resolved.

The Committee recommended the Board notes the Corporate Risk Register and the most up to date version can be found under the Interim Directors Update in the Board paper pack.

Programme Reporting

The Committee reviewed the paper which detailed the arrangements for the capital programme reporting which had been made to Performance & Investment Committee, moving to FACR Committee from mid-September in line with the Board's agreement to the governance refresh. As a consequence, the Terms of Reference were updated to reflect the change and this is now [online](#).

3. RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended the Board:

- notes the 2022/23 financial position to date
- notes the Corporate Risk Register

The papers for agenda Item 3.4 are not included as they are Commercially Sensitive

DORSET LEP BOARD MEETING COVER SHEET

Meeting Date	27-09-22	Item Number	3.5
Security Level:	Confidential <input type="checkbox"/>	Commercially Sensitive <input type="checkbox"/>	Unclassified <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Paper Title	Dorset LEP Business Growth and Inward Investment update		
Recommendation	None – for information only		
Papers are provided for:	Decision <input type="checkbox"/>	Discussion <input type="checkbox"/>	Information <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

1. PURPOSE

To brief the Board on delivery, activities and developments related to business growth and inward investment within Dorset LEP.

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

2. SUMMARY
Business Growth

Two new programmes have been launched and are being delivered with partners. The first enables 20 businesses with high growth potential to work with a professional training and coaching company, participating in a new Business Growth Group programme. Engineering, manufacturing, aerospace, marine, maritime and defence are being targeted and the initiative includes one-to-one coaching and group sessions, which will explore strategic growth, funding for growth, leadership for growth, internationalisation and more. Outputs include helping participants develop leadership skills across strategic planning, finance, and growth to enhance business performance and productivity.

The second is aimed at businesses with less than 250 staff and includes a free online programme exploring a range of key themes including growth strategies, financial resilience, recruitment and retention, leadership and management and net-zero solutions to address climate breakdown. Virtual one-to-one sessions are also available to help focus on the challenges and opportunities within their businesses and ensure they get the most from the programme.

Inward Investment

- British Business Bank South West Investment Fund: This £200m fund will provide significant opportunities for Dorset and we have continued to liaise with the British Bank on this. Tendering is likely to take place in summer 2023 and there will be a fund manager who will be committed to a permanent presence in each part of the region.
- Venture capital: discussions have been held with a range of Venture Capital funds in Cambridge & London; and various platforms to engage them in the investment possibilities in Dorset.
- Business Angels – Tech South West funding aims to foster the creation of a 'South West Angels Network'. Discussions have taken place with various key individuals and some Angel platforms about possible models. Any new network would supplement and not in any way displace investment activity by the existing Dorset Business Angels (DBA) investment club.

Key liaison

Discussions continue with key stakeholders such as Tech South West following their 2022 SW Tech Analysis 2022 [report](#) and understanding better opportunities for Dorset, Innovate UK to further improve links as well as Creative UK, Barclays Eagle Labs and others.

We have also continued to engage with key sector stakeholders including Dorset Engineering & Manufacturing Cluster and South West Aerospace, Ocean Futures (marine), South West Regional Defence and Security Cluster, South West AgriTech and FinTech West.

Working with our local partners, we are refreshing Invest in Dorset sector propositions and online materials. We also continue to support the Sustainable Aquaculture High Potential Opportunity.

3. RECOMMENDATION

None – for information only.

DORSET LEP BOARD MEETING

Meeting Date	27-09-22	Item Number	3.6
Security Level:	Confidential <input type="checkbox"/>	Commercially Sensitive <input type="checkbox"/>	Unclassified <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Paper Title	Dorset LEP Skills Update		
Recommendation	None – for information only.		
Papers are provided for:	Decision <input type="checkbox"/>	Discussion <input type="checkbox"/>	Information <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

1. PURPOSE

This paper provides an update from the Dorset Skills Advisory Panel and Board (SAPB), together with operational updates from Dorset LEP skills team in Dorset.

2. SUMMARY

Skills Strategy and Delivery

- **Skills Advisory Panel & Board (SAPB)**– this group continues to meet and provide key collaborative information sharing as part of the skills 'system' in Dorset. The committee focused on the Local Skills Improvement Plan (LSIP) delivery in September and will be providing a governance role to the planning stages of this work.
- **Skills Boot Camps** – Weymouth College have commenced delivery of Skills Boot Camps under wave 3 of the Department for England funding.
- **Restart Programme** – Restart continues to work across the county to help people into work and specifically with rural and coastal employers to find secure employment for participants. Statistics on progress/ impact are due at the end of Quarter 3.
- **Skills Commission** - The plan and leadership will be shared as soon as contractual arrangement are in place.
- **Labour Market Information (LMI)** – this continues to be published under this programme and shared with SAPB, providers and via our website. We have shared press releases relating to the Quarter 2 figures which featured in both local newspapers, with Rebecca Davies, Head of Skills Strategy making the front page of the Dorset Echo. LMI posters for schools have been produced and these are available for use through the Dorset Careers Hub.
- **BCP Council Skills Strategy and Implementation** – Dorset LEP have delivered a BCP Skills Plan with comprehensive data analysis providing an evidence base for skills in the region. Work now continues with delivery of a collaborative action plan with BCP skills providers, commissioned as part of the initial plan. This work will lead into UK Shared Prosperity Fund skills investment in 2024-5.
- **Local Skills Improvement Plan (LSIP)** – Dorset Chamber of Commerce and Industry have been awarded the opportunity to lead the LSIP for Dorset LEP area. We are supporting the delivery of the initial plan and will be providing the data to help understand the skills needs for business, and the areas for action to be concentrated. Conclusions will be finalised by May 2023, with a delivery period to follow backed up with a Strategic Development Fun.
- **Strategic Development Fund 2022/23** – Dorset Colleges have been awarded £1.5m to enhance capital equipment for provision of sustainability related apprenticeships and qualifications.

- **National Careers Service** –Initial engagement meetings to ensure the service is helping residents understand opportunities in Dorset are very positive.

LMI update

The latest labour market information reveals new challenges for skills shortages in Dorset with labour demand in the county at its highest levels and no sign of slowing down. Dorset LEP's mid-year [Labour Market Information Report](#) provides in-depth breakdown and analysis of the local economic and labour market developments over the first half of 2022. The report highlights that jobs advertised in Dorset during January to June 2022 were the highest on record and 50% up on the same period of 2021, with vacancy growth across all sectors of the economy.

Carers and office assistants overtook nurses and software developers as jobs most in demand in Dorset, while customer service, chefs, cleaners and kitchen staff continue to be in demand as the tourism and hospitality revival is further boosted by the favourable weather conditions. In 'accommodation and food service' there were 170% more vacancies in 2022 and 'education' saw 110% increase.

Professionals such as project, account and financial managers, lawyers and accountants also remain highly sought after. High skilled roles (Managers, Professional and Associate Professional roles) that are typically occupied by college and university graduates accounted for 48% of the demand in Dorset. This reflects the strong growth in mid- skilled (particularly for Admin and Care workers) and lower-skilled roles (particularly Elementary) in Dorset, where the most labour shortages are currently being reported, as well as the lowest salaries and highest volatility.

In Caring Service occupations demand increased by over 540% over the past decade and Elementary Occupations grew by over 400%, clearly suggesting demand far outweighs supply and indicating acute recruitment challenges and competition amongst employers.

Overall employment in Dorset fell, but rates remained favourable compared to the national reference. Unemployment however reached 4.9% - and exceeded national rates for the first time on record. The number of economically inactive people who want a job fell by 7% in Dorset vs 2% nationally.

Dorset Careers Hub Update

Dorset Careers Hub had great achievements in 2021/22 in terms of initiatives and events and saw good improvement in the Gatsby Benchmarks. Priorities for 2022/23 include strong Benchmark Performance amongst our schools, and this year with reduced funding from the CEC, we will award schools funding based on where there is greatest need. We will also continue to focus on maximising the opportunities within the Enterprise Adviser network and greater involvement of teachers, not just careers leaders, by embedding careers in the curriculum. The launch of the 'Teacher Encounters' programme will see teacher CPD increased and greater emphasis and opportunity for them to experience business and industry and fully understand how their curriculum subjects translate in the real world and careers.

With the Dorset Marvels project well underway, and a new Hub Innovation Project starting in September, focus and direct efforts and influence over outcomes for SEND young people takes centre stage. Through the new project we will work with a range of local employers to get them to Disability Confident Employer and Leader status.

3. RECOMMENDATION

None – for information only.

DRAFT MINUTES

DORSET LOCAL ENTERPRISE PARTNERSHIP BOARD

28 JULY 2022 FROM 10.00 am TO 12.30 PM

ZOOM MEETING

MINUTES

Board Attendees:

Cecilia Buffon (CB) (Chair)
Cllr John Beesley (JB)
Liz Williams (LW)
Luke Rake (LR)
May Palmer (MP)
Nick Gaines (NG)
Nicola Newman (NN)
Paul Gough (PG)
Cllr Spencer Flower (SF)
Cllr Tony Ferrari (TF)

Also Present:

Aidan Dunn (AD) (Dorset Council)
Anwen Jones (Cities and Local Growth Unit)
Corinne Lancaster (Cities and Local Growth Unit)
Corrina Osborne (CO) (Dorset LEP)
Daniela Doncakova (DD) (Dorset LEP)
Finn Morgan (FM) (Dorset LEP)
Kathryn Hill (KH) (Dorset LEP)
Nick Webster (NW) (Dorset Council)
Rebecca Davies (RD) (Dorset LEP)

Apologies:

Cllr Drew Mellor (DM)
Ian Girling (IG)
Jim Andrews (JA)
Julia Howe (JH)
Paul Read (PR)
Sophia Story (SS)

Presenters:

Sergi Martorell, Glass AI
Chris Rawson, Glass AI

Item	Notes and Decisions	Action
1.	<p>Apologies were received for: Drew Mellor, Ian Girling, Jim Andrews, Julia Howe, Paul Read and Sophia Story.</p> <p>Declarations of Interest: No additional conflicts were declared.</p>	
2.	Guest Presentations	
2.1	<p>Supply Chain Issues</p> <p>FM started by saying that businesses have faced unprecedented disruption to their supply chains over the course of the last few years, largely as a result of major global and geo-political events. These issues continue to have a major impact on businesses today. He advised that in 2020, Dorset LEP secured funding to carry out a study mapping in more detail, Dorset's business base. The primary aim was to identify those sectors locally that had been impacted the most by this disruption, as well as identifying those that were more resilient/greater insulated against these impacts.</p> <p>He informed the Board that we worked with economic consultancy Hatch Regeneris and technology provider glass.ai to carry out this study. The latter's AI technology crawls millions of websites and online news, social media articles and matches them with official data sources such as Companies House data. The result was a richer and more comprehensive understanding of the local economy, providing us with a deeper understanding of Dorset's business base and capabilities. Having established a base-line in 2020/21 we repeated the study in 2021/22 to see what issues were most effecting local businesses.</p> <p>Sergi Martorell, Co-Founder and CEO of Glass.ai, and Chris Rawson, Head of Public Sector at Glass.ai, to present the results of the most recent study. SM explained that Glass.ai are a technology company and have worked with regional and central Government. They have researched into themes around supply chain issues. He explained how the data was collected, the parameters of the data and the impact of key external factors such as COVID-19, the Ukraine-Russian war and Brexit.</p> <p>CR demonstrated how the interactive map worked and how Dorset LEP now has a valuable baseline dataset of the Dorset business landscape and further deep dives that could be possible as a result.</p>	
2.2	<p>Rural Economy White Paper</p> <p>LR explained the report was commissioned by the Rural APPG, sponsored by the Council for Protection of Rural England. The report updates work undertaken in 2017 and highlights a suite of rural issues.</p> <p>LR stated it was important to note that Dorset LEP is part of a population that is rural and whilst the majority of the land is managed or farmed, the majority of the jobs are not in this sector.</p> <p>TF stated that Dorset needs to do more to argue the case with government that the rural agenda is a key part of Levelling Up.</p> <p>SF mentioned the report talks to planning and the Levelling Up White Paper has a review of planning in it. He stated there is a need to pursue a different approach to our local planning in Dorset, which is more strategic and not just about the number of houses.</p>	

Item	Notes and Decisions	Action
2.2	<p>Rural Economy White Paper Cont'd</p> <p>Action: The Board notes the paper, and members support further partners in evidence based activity in due course to support the rural agenda.</p>	All noted
2.3	<p>Update from AUB</p> <p>PG gave an update on the Arts University Bournemouth (AUB). Since joining AUB, the university has created a 10-year strategy. In past 18 months AUB has seen a 12% growth in student numbers. They have also seen a significant growth on-line and have gone into partnership to provide an on-line offering for some Masters courses. They also validate and support a number of FE colleges across the UK. Student and alumni successes (from London Graduate Fashion Week to the Oscars) in HE and FE were still a major component of AUB's global success and standing.</p> <p>PG mentioned there is a huge demand in the UK higher and further education arena internationally and this has a significant economic impact for the area. He continued with the example that a recent HEPI report estimated that the Bournemouth East area will generate £42.9m in GVA through 420 full-free international students. (HEPI report, 2021)</p> <p>He stated that the distance travelled by students to university is now estimated to be diminishing by 5 miles a year and a key challenge is the magnet of London but the coastline and festival environment in Dorset is very powerful. The lack of infrastructure, lack of an industrial building base, remains an issue but the nascent cultural compact and cultural strategies will aim to address that. AUB's investment in the Innovation Studio (supported by LEP) would generate new business and wider creative tech engagement and delivery.</p> <p>In addition to AUB's recent high achievement in research excellence (REF), graduate achievements (GOS) and global teaching outcomes, PG advised the Board that the creative economy generates £115.9 billion of GVA which means 6% of the UK GVA is in this area. As well as its national standing and international impact, he stated AUB also has a major civic role and had bought the Palace Court Theatre which will be education focused during the day and community focused in the evenings. He informed that AUB have also leased space in Bobby's Department Store in Bournemouth and have studio space in The Avenue.</p> <p>JB asked how to solve the problem of graduate retention, in terms of the digital and creative industries. PG explained that graduates need to have a place to work and making that space is very important. We need to build an attractive place to live in the city region with activities to participate in for those that live here all year round.</p>	
3.	For Decision / Discussion	
3.1	<p>Finance, Audit and Corporate Risk Committee (Confidential - Commercially Sensitive)</p> <p>CO took the paper as read.</p> <p>Action: The Board approves the 2021/22 financial outturn position Action: The Board approves the 2021/22 2022/23 financial position to date Action: The Board notes the 2022/23 budget. Action: The Board notes the Corporate Risk Register.</p>	<p>All approved All approved All approved All approved</p>

Item	Notes and Decisions	Action
3.2	<p>Nominations and Remuneration Committee (Confidential - Commercially Sensitive)</p> <p>CO took the paper as read. She explained that since joining the Board as a co-opted member seven months ago, MP has demonstrated considerable value and commitment. She is Chair of the FACR Committee and has fully engaged in other corporate activity, such as the Director recruitment and representing Dorset LEP at events. She has considerable experience and understanding of local infrastructure issues, as well as the corporate function of running a business. Her term as a co-opted member expires this year and it is, therefore, recommended that May is appointed as a full Board member from August 2022.</p> <p>11.27 - MP left the meeting.</p> <p>Action: The Board approve appointing May Palmer as a full Board member.</p> <p>11.29 MP re-joined the meeting</p> <p>CO went on to explain that there are 2 vacancies on the Nominations and Remuneration Committee and Board members Liz Williams and Nick Gaines have volunteered. It is recommended that these two Board members are appointed.</p> <p>11.29 NG and LW left the meeting.</p> <p>Action: The Board approve appointing Liz and Nick onto the NR Committee.</p> <p>11.31 NG and LW re-joined the meeting</p> <p>11.31 NN left the meeting</p> <p>Action: The Board approve appointing Nicola to join FACR Committee.</p> <p>11.32 NN re-joined the meeting</p> <p>CO explained that, as we mention in our delivery plan, a Board governance review will be undertaken via the Nominations and Remuneration Committee.</p>	<p>All approved</p> <p>All approved</p> <p>All approved</p>
4.	For Information / To Note	
4.1	<p>Interim Director's Update (Confidential - Commercially Sensitive)</p> <p>CO took her paper as read.</p> <p>Action: The Board notes the funding successes detailed in the paper.</p> <p>Action: The Board endorses the updated Local Assurance Framework.</p> <p>CB asked CO what progress was being made regarding influencing infrastructure decisions. CO explained that local infrastructure is now fully the responsibility of the Local Authorities and the LEP is working with officers in the Local Authorities as to how the business voice can feed into these decisions.</p>	<p>All noted</p> <p>All approved</p>

Item	Notes and Decisions	Action
4.2	<p>Chair's Update</p> <p>CB updated on the GSW and that work will now start on the programmes that are in the GSW prospectus.</p>	
4.3	<p>Performance and Investment Committee (Confidential - Commercially Sensitive)</p> <p>NN took the paper as read and advised there is one more meeting taking place before the Committee closes. It has been a triumph, with all members very committed to get the money well spent and the outcomes achieved.</p> <p>Action: The Board noted the recommendations in the paper.</p>	All noted
4.4	<p>Enterprise Zone (Confidential - Commercially Sensitive)</p> <p>CO took the paper as read. She mentioned that the official BattleLab launch event took place on 18 May 2022 and a new interactive website has been launched but wanted to specifically highlight that the Dorset Council Cabinet approved a significant investment for the site.</p>	
4.5	<p>Business Growth and Inward Investment Committee</p> <p>FM took the paper as read.</p> <p>FM explained all funds allocated to Dorset SME's under the Department for International Trade (DIT) SME Internationalisation Fund have been used. He informed that DIT are looking at areas of underspend and to reallocate that funding which means hopefully Dorset companies can still apply for funding.</p> <p>FM mentioned that the National Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) Results 2021/22 and that these are back to pre-pandemic levels in terms of overseas investment in the region which reflects a great deal of hard work by colleagues in Dorset LEP, BCP, Dorset Council and DIT.</p> <p>Action: The Board noted the following recommendations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Notes the update regarding future funding for business support activity. • Notes the most recent success of Dorset LEP's funded bid writing support service. • Notes the National Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) Results 2021/22. • Notes the progress of the SME Internationalisation Fund which is being supported by Dorset Gateway. 	<p>All noted</p> <p>All noted</p> <p>All noted</p> <p>All noted</p>
4.6	<p>Skills Advisory Panel and Board</p> <p>LR took the paper as read and mentioned all the good work undertaken by RD and the LMI report produced by Mira Koseva.</p> <p>RD explained that the Labour Market Insights (LMI) report is helpful in supporting both councils and that, for example, it shows that 27% of people in the Dorset Council area earn less than the living wage.</p>	

Item	Notes and Decisions	Action
	<p>Skills Advisory Panel and Board Cont'd</p> <p>LR informed that the Careers and Enterprise Hub funding has been secured, so we can continue that excellent work.</p> <p>RD mentioned that when she started the LEP won a small piece of funding for the Mid Life MOT and that now the Department for Work & Pensions (DWP) have just announced that following the 10 LEP area feasibility projects, they have adopted the learning into policy and will be investing £multimillions in Mid-life MOT delivery across the UK with Mid-Life coaches in all Job Centre Plus.</p> <p>Action: The Board noted the strategic input and operational delivery of skills.</p>	All noted
4.7	<p>Overview and Scrutiny</p> <p>CO explained this Committee is made up of completely independent members and the last meeting included information on Government capital funding allocations, a review of Dorset LEP 2021/22 activity and an update on LEP review. It also discussed the Terms of Reference and the Committee's future workplan.</p> <p>She advised that the Committee stated it was impressed with the breath of activities, achievements and the return on investment by Dorset LEP.</p>	
4.8	<p>Advisory Group Updates</p> <p>Rural Enterprise Group - LR informed the secretariat of this Committee is moving to Dorset Council. He explained that he was also the Chair of the Local Nature Partnership, where the membership is made up of Dorset Council and other members. He said that they have recently renewed their strategy and a key ambition is to be bigger, better, more connected and work further with the LEP.</p>	
4.9	<p>Minutes of last meeting and matters arising</p> <p>The Minutes were agreed as an accurate reflection of the last meeting.</p> <p>There were no matters arising.</p>	All agreed
5.	Any Other Business	
	<p>NG mentioned that he had recently attended a session organised by BCP in low carbon partnership. He stated this was a great piece of work and needs to be as broad as possible and it would be good to have Dorset Council represented in the room.</p>	

Note: Date of Next Meeting - 27 September 2022 at 1.30 pm