

DORSET LOCAL ENTERPRISE PARTNERSHIP BOARD MEETING
24 NOVEMBER 2022 AT 10.00 PM TO 12.30 PM
ZOOM MEETING
AGENDA

Time	Page No	Item	Subject/Title	Presenter
10.15		1.	Apologies and declarations of interest	Cecilia Buffon
		2.	Policy	
10.20	2	2.1	Current context – strategic discussion: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Budget implications, Levelling up and Devolution – what we know currently • Council priorities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Dorset - BCP 	Vinita Nawathe Spencer Flower Drew Mellor
11.00		2.2	LEP Strategic Priorities – next steps	Cecilia Buffon
11.20		2.3	Governance structure	Cecilia Buffon
		3.	CIC Operations	
11.40	3	3.1	Business Growth and Inward Investment update	Rebecca Davies
11.50	5	3.2	Skills update	Rebecca Davies
12.05		3.3	Nominations and Remuneration Committee – no meeting since last report	Jim Andrews
12.10	8	3.4	Finance and Corporate Risk Committee – to be held on Friday 2 nd	May Palmer
12.15		3.5	Overview and Scrutiny Committee	Vinita Nawathe
12.20		3.6	GSW update	Cecilia Buffon
12.30	9	3.7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Marine cluster Launchpad EOI • Defence cluster Launchpad EOI 	Vinita Nawathe

		4.	Minutes from the Last Meeting	
12.35		4.1	Approve Minutes and actions from September Board Meeting and matters arising	Cecilia Buffon
		5.	Any Other Business	Cecilia Buffon
12.45			Lunch	

Note: Date of Next Meeting - 24 January 2023 at 10.00 am at the Arts University Bournemouth

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

DORSET LEP BOARD MEETING COVER SHEET

Meeting Date	24/11/2022	Item Number	2.1
Security Level:	Confidential <input type="checkbox"/>	Commercially Sensitive <input type="checkbox"/>	Unclassified <input type="checkbox"/>
Paper Title	Current context - discussion		
Recommendation			
Papers are provided for:	Decision <input type="checkbox"/>	Discussion <input type="checkbox"/>	Information <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

1. PURPOSE

Strategic discussion and better understanding of the current policy and economic context. To start considering options open to the Local Enterprise Partnership partners for navigating opportunities and challenges.

2. SUMMARY/BACKGROUND

The board meeting is taking place a week after the Autumn Statement and after a change in Government priorities and personnel since the last board meeting. This item is to share understanding and intelligence regarding the current operational context and to candidly discuss the challenges and opportunities presented by:

- The Autumn Statement
- Economic conditions
- Levelling up
- Devolution
- Requirements of LEPs

A paper with some analysis of the Autumn Statement implications will follow.

3. RECOMMENDATION

For discussion

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	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

DorsetLEP's new Head of Business Growth and Inward Investment, Shelley Collins-Trevett joined the team on the 3/10/2022. Shelley has been continuing the outreach with all SW sister LEPs, Barclays Eagle Labs, sector networks & InnovateUK to drive forward key agendas, as well as working closely with our LA partners to ensure consistency of approach.

Business Growth delivery

Growth programmes: Positive feedback from delivery partners with sector specific and themed participant groups all live. The enables 40 businesses with high growth potential to work with a professional trainer and coach, participating in a new Business Growth Group programme. Outputs include helping participants develop leadership skills across strategic planning, finance, and growth to enhance business performance and productivity.

Business support programme: our free partner-lead online support programme and 1:1 business advisor support is live and attracting interested businesses. The programme explores a range of key themes including growth strategies, financial resilience, recruitment and retention, leadership and management and net-zero solutions to address climate breakdown. Comms will continue to drive businesses to this resource.

OneHealth: collaborative bids have been submitted to Innovate UK. The first unsuccessful but with positive feedback; the second outcome is awaited. Working to the theme of Food Security, we are seeking to bring businesses together to discuss possible cluster work and for us to gain deeper understanding into what's needed to achieve greater growth in this area. A 2023 Conference is being planned.

Marine: Dorset LEP is now part of the working group of the Ocean Futures Programme which is bidding for launchpad funding via Innovate UK with a focus on 3 key areas; Martine Autonomy, Digital Oceans and Clean Oceans.

Future Farming Resilience: this fund was awarded in July 2023, and is being delivered by partners, Devon County Council. The Devon delivery is now live, with Dorset procurement recently completed. It is anticipated that there will be some workshops delivered for Dorset farmers in December, with the bulk of delivery commencing from January 2023. Under this scheme, farmers are able to secure advisory time with a suitable sector advisor, helping businesses be resilient and look to future growth.

Inward Investment delivery

- Working with BCP council and Dorset Council we have created a suite of Inward Investment Prospectus primarily for use as an inward investment tool but will support across a range of opportunities. These prospectus include a showcase of businesses within priority sectors in Dorset. They can be viewed on our website within sector pages: <https://www.dorsetlep.co.uk/dorsets-sectors>. A press release and comms plan to showcase the opportunities in the region is about to go live.
- A contract to deliver a Defence prospectus has been commissioned with output expected late 2022.
- British Business Bank South West Investment Fund: conversations continue with the BBB as they finalise their offer to business ready for launch next year. This £200m fund will provide significant opportunities for Dorset. A BBB SW Senior Network Manager has been recruited and will be in post imminently. Fund Management companies are being procured as we speak with an announcement in January. There will be 3 funds available – Micro Finance (debt fund £25k - £100k), 2 larger Debt Funds (one for GSW including Dorset) and an Equity Scheme. Latest update is that the schemes will be live in April 23.
- 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.

3. RECOMMENDATION

None – for information only.

DORSET LEP BOARD MEETING

Meeting Date	24 November 2022	Item Number	3.2
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)**– the SAPB meets to share information relating to skills initiatives and provide strategy, collaboration and strength to the skills system and delivery for Dorset. The committee focused on the work of the Local Skills Improvement Plan (LSIP) delivery in November and will be providing a governance role to the planning stages of this work. The committee also agreed the strength of this partnership group locally and will seek to continue to meet quarterly to continue the work of skills strategy.
- **Labour Market Information (LMI)** – the latest LMI for Q3 2022 is now live on our website <https://www.dorsetlep.co.uk/userfiles/files/LMI%20Q3%202022.pdf> and has been shared with SAPB and providers. Press releases will follow. LMI posters for schools have been produced and these are available for use through the Dorset Careers Hub.
- **Future Fest** – Rebecca Davies joined Dorset Councils 'Future Fest' Skills day in October, talking about careers and jobs in Dorset. This included an interview on BBC radio Solent.
- **Multiply** – Skills and Learning are delivering numeracy support through a variety of methods in line with the national programme to help adults improve numeracy skills.
- **Skills Boot Camps** – Weymouth College are delivering Skills Boot Camps under wave 3 of the Department for England funding. Other providers in Somerset and virtually are providing free training to Dorset residents, and at a small cost for employees through businesses.
- **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.

- **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.
- **Strategic Development Fund 2022/23** – Dorset Colleges have been awarded £1.5m to enhance capital equipment for provision of sustainability related apprenticeships and qualifications. The launch event hosted by the colleges will be held on the 30th November.
- **ESFA funding for skills** – the final review of ESFA funded skills programmes has been undertaken with outcomes meeting the KPI's of the EU funded programme. Consideration will be given to how we look to fill the gap this leaves in provision, particularly around NEET engagement and those furthest from the work force.

LSIP Update

A key funded delivery to ensure business have access to a skilled workforce, the LSIP focuses on technical education for 16-64 years. Dorset Chamber have contracted to the DfE to deliver a report by May 31 2023, with Nicola Newman contracted as LSIP Project Lead.

- Latest Statutory Guidance issued October
https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/1111501/Local_skills_improvement_plans_-_statutory_guidance_Oct_2022.pdf
- Skills Advisory Panel and Board are providing pan Dorset holistic advice and comment on proposals
- Priority Sector focus has been adopted - Agriculture, Agri-tech and Aquaculture; Advanced Manufacturing and Engineering including Aerospace, Defence and Marine; Construction; Digital Tech and Creative; Health and Social Care
- Themes within these sectors that are highlighted are:
 - The most pressing skills issues
 - Transferable 'soft' skills affecting all businesses cross-sector
 - Where innovation and investment are changing the demand for skills
 - Net Zero targets, Climate Change and other environmental goals
 - Business process change/digitalisation
 - Professional Services - roles with professional regulation
- The LSIP launched 4 November to all stakeholders, c70, 5 expert speakers including May Palmer representing the 5 sectors. Website registration of employers willing to contribute is open and Employer, Provider and Learner Advisory groups active.
- Other actions include desk research active, 1st focus group held, 1:1 interviews starting shortly, events roadshow active, recruitment of a Data Analyst active, procurement of B2B external research supplier active
- Next steps – online survey, sector focus groups

Dorset Careers Hub Update

We are working to CEC National priority areas, which include Provider Access Legislation, T Teacher Encounters and maximising opportunities from Enterprise Adviser Network

At a local level, our key priorities for 2022/23 are:

- SLT & Governor engagement for school improvement
- Teacher encounters to ensure whole school involvement with careers education
- Enterprise Adviser Network
- SEND/AP and Middle Schools levelling up
- Focus on Gatsby Benchmarks - 1,4,5,6,7
- Removing Barriers - SEND, WEX, Transport, Rurality & Disadvantage
- Strengthening Cornerstone Employer Group to support objectives and deliver strategy

Already we are celebrating achievement as follows:

- Significant Progress on targets made in last quarter
- EA Match at 95%
- Greater school and network engagement
- Social media (LinkedIn) reach at 1,156 followers
- Transport fund breakthrough
- Fully staffed

As an overview, we are delivering the following projects as part of contract and a number of additional funding awards secured:

- Dorset Marvels (NEET Project) fully operational
- Hub Innovation Project - Disability Confident Employer Programme
- SEND LMI CPD, Website and Posters
- SLT Event 23rd November
- Regional Dorset Council area careers events
- WEX CPD
- BM7 events
- Apprenticeship Employer Conference

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.

DORSET LEP BOARD MEETING COVER SHEET

Meeting Date	24/11/22	Item Number	3.4
Security Level:	Confidential <input type="checkbox"/>	Commercially Sensitive <input type="checkbox"/>	Unclassified <input type="checkbox"/>
Paper Title	Finance, Audit and Corporate Risk Committee		
Recommendation	For noting		
Papers are provided for:	Decision <input type="checkbox"/>	Discussion <input type="checkbox"/>	Information <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

1. PURPOSE

To inform the Board of upcoming Finance Committee Agenda items.

2. SUMMARY/BACKGROUND

The Finance, Audit and Corporate Risk committee usually sits in advance of the full board and therefore recommends a scrutinised finance paper to the Board. Unusually, on this occasion, the Finance Committee is sitting on 2nd December. Any draft finance paper placed before this Board meeting will not, therefore, have been through the Committee.

The Finance, Audit and Corporate Risk Committee have likewise not have had an opportunity to look at an updated risk register.

The Finance, Audit and Corporate Risk Committee will, in addition, be looking at a review of the Growing Places Fund.

3. RECOMMENDATION

On this occasion it is recommended that the Board note the following papers will be brought to the Board after the Finance, Audit and Corporate Risk Committee have had the opportunity to scrutinise them:

Finance to mid November
 Risk register
 Review of Growing Places Fund.

DORSET LEP BOARD MEETING COVER SHEET

Meeting Date	24/11/22	Item Number	3.7
Security Level:	Confidential <input type="checkbox"/>	Commercially Sensitive <input type="checkbox"/>	Unclassified <input type="checkbox"/>
Paper Title	Innovate UK Launchpad expressions of interest		
Recommendation	For noting		
Papers are provided for:	Decision <input type="checkbox"/>	Discussion <input type="checkbox"/>	Information <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

1. PURPOSE

To inform the Board of Expressions of Interests that have been submitted for Innovate UK's Launchpad call.

2. SUMMARY/BACKGROUND

Innovate UK asked for expressions of interest to be submitted by 11th November to partner with them in developing clusters. There is no money for the lead partner itself to develop a cluster, but if successful, a grant of up to £7.5m could be made available to the cluster for SME innovation.

Dorset LEP were approached by Oceans Future, a Plymouth based partnership that had been working up an expression of interest around the marine sector for some time. They had been advised by Innovate UK that a cluster should not be larger than a city region and encouraged an EOI on the GSW footprint. Dorset LEP, BCP and Dorset Council were consulted and had the opportunity to input to the, initially Plymouth Centric EOI.

Dorset Council also put in an EOI for the Defence Cluster on a SWDSC footprint with a very short turnaround time.

Successful or not, the exercises show the potential of collaboration for our sectors across a wider footprint and the appetite for pan regional working by national Government and funding bodies.

3. RECOMMENDATION

For noting