

DORSET LOCAL ENTERPRISE PARTNERSHIP BOARD MEETING
18 JULY 2024 AT 10.00 AM TO 12.30 PM - TEAMS MEETING
AGENDA

Time	Item	Subject/Title	Presenter
10.00	1.	Apologies and declarations of interest	Cecilia Bufton
10.05	2.	Chair's Update (verbal)	Cecilia Bufton
	3	Policy	
10.15	3.1	Impacts of the general election on Dorset – discussion and sector perspectives	Vinita Nawathe/All
10.45	3.2	LEP Integration Task and Finish Group update	Cecilia Bufton
11.00	3.3	Pan-Dorset Growth Strategy	Vinita Nawathe
11.15	3.4	Next Steps?	
	4	CIC Business	
11.25	4.1	Annual Report – link to follow	Vinita Nawathe/ Rebecca Davies
11.35	4.2	One Health Conference Report - Presentation	Cecilia Bufton
11.45	4.3	Dorset LEP Skills Update	Rebecca Davies
11.55	4.4	Dorset LEP Business Update	Rebecca Davies
	5	For noting	
12.00	5	Great South West – Update	Cecilia Bufton
	6	Minutes from the Last Meeting	
12.10		Approve Minutes and actions from November Board Meeting and matters arising	Cecilia Bufton
12.20	7.	Any Other Business	

Note: Date of Next Meeting – 24 September 2024 at 1.30 pm to 4.00 pm

DORSET LEP BOARD MEETING COVER SHEET

Meeting Date	18/07/24	Item Number	3.1
Security Level:	Confidential <input type="checkbox"/>	Commercially Sensitive <input type="checkbox"/>	Unclassified <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Paper Title	Impacts of the general election on Dorset – discussion and sector perspectives.		
Recommendation	Board members are recommended to come prepared to share reflections and insights from their networks on the challenges and opportunities of the changes known to date.		
Papers are provided for:	Decision <input type="checkbox"/>	Discussion <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Information <input type="checkbox"/>

1. PURPOSE

For the board to have an opportunity to share perspectives, knowledge and horizon scanning two weeks on from the general election.

2. SUMMARY/BACKGROUND

The general election held on 4th July 2024 resulted in a change in national government, a change in local political representation, and indeed a change in the leadership of BCP. Congratulations to Cllr Vikki Slade on winning her seat in parliament.

This session will be the first opportunity for the board to collectively reflect on the changes to the political and policy landscape a day after the Kings speech.

3. RECOMMENDATION

Board members are recommended to come prepared to share reflections and insights from their networks on the challenges and opportunities of the changes known to date.

The papers for agenda Item 3.2 are not included as they are Commercially Sensitive

DORSET LEP BOARD MEETING COVER SHEET

Meeting Date	18 th July 2024	Item Number	3.3
Security Level:	Confidential <input type="checkbox"/>	Commercially Sensitive <input type="checkbox"/>	Unclassified <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Paper Title	Pan Dorset Growth Strategy		
Recommendation	The Board are asked to turn their attention to the draft strategy and send in comments and suggestions for areas of focus or consideration or examples to feature.		
Papers are provided for:	Decision <input type="checkbox"/>	Discussion <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Information <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

1. PURPOSE

To seek input on the latest version of the economic strategy document.

2. SUMMARY/BACKGROUND

A word version of the economic strategy document is attached reflecting comments received to date. Not many were received! The plan is to get a version we can socialise and get input from wider stakeholders in September, starting with the Ambassadors business breakfast at AUB.

Concurrently, the Great South West is conducting an Independent Economic Review. Vinita Nawathe convenes an economic intelligence group of Economic analysts and/or EDOs from all the Local Authorities in the GSW area together with the Marchmont observatory and ONS local and is on the steering group for the GSW Independent review. Hence alignment of evidence and opportunities should be across the geographies.

With a renewed government emphasis on economic growth and in anticipation of an ask for local growth plans, getting a robust strategic document – with input from different sectors and perspectives - in place for the Autumn should put the area in good starting place.

We have an opportunity to set out our areas offers and asks based on our knowledge of what is going on our patch, "what problems we need to solve and what opportunities we want to exploit".

3. RECOMMENDATION

The Board are asked to turn their attention to the draft strategy and send in comments and suggestions for areas of focus or consideration or examples to feature.

DORSET LEP BOARD MEETING

Meeting Date	18 July 2024	Item Number	4.3
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 Board (DSB) together with operational updates on the contracted LEP skills delivery.

2. DORSET CAREERS HUB CONTRACT UPDATE

Dorset Careers Hub (DCH) continues to deliver across the region with its many stakeholders, with 2024 Summer term being one of the busiest for delivering and supporting events.

One of our key priorities is to improve opportunities for disadvantaged young people. As a result, two of our flagship events both took place. Firstly, we held our inaugural SEND focussed careers fair; the 'Your Future – Skills and Transitions Fair' attracted 300+ young people from 20 schools and colleges. Secondly, we held our 2nd SEND Forum for teachers and advisers who work with SEND students. 85 delegates reviewed and learned from peers about how to increase the quality of SEND careers education across all Key Stages.

We continue to both increase engagement with our employers to impact skills shortages across the region. We are funding the creation of a directory of work based experiences and have extended this work with the Chamber to March 2025. In addition, we delivered a successful Teacher Encounters project that enabled 27 teachers to attend events hosted by AFC Bournemouth, JP Morgan and the NHS. We have successfully secured a funding extension to the project so Teachers Encounters will continue into the next academic year.

Delivery Overview April to July 2024:

- **Cornerstone Employer Group**
 - 2 meetings: 1 virtual and 1 face to face
- **Events:**
 - Kingston Maurward Festival of Skills and Careers – 1000 students
 - Teacher Encounters in business – 3 events, 27 teachers
 - SEND Transitions Fair – 300 students
 - SEND Forum – 85 delegates.

- **Primary Project:**

- Wave 2 completed.
- Wave 3 starting September 2024

Target from CEC Grant Agreement for 2023-24 Academic Year	Pan Dorset Achievement (End of June 2024)	Status
Future Skills Questionnaire Completions: 20%	33% 17 institutions = 3023 FSQs	Achieved
Enterprise Adviser Recruitment: 80%	84% 63 in post	Achieved
Benchmark Achievement: 90% of institutions to achieve at least 3 Benchmarks 5.5 average benchmark score 20% of institutions achieving 8 BMs	97% achieving at least 3 Benchmarks 6.5 average benchmark score 38% of institutions achieving 8 BMs	Achieved
Employer Standards completion	14 employers completed	Achieved
Compass Completions – 100% per term	87% completed Sep -Jun	On track

Following the Board's agreement, we have accepted the contract for CEC funding for Dorset LEP area, for the period 2024-2025. Working with the Dorset Careers Hub team, including BCP and DC team members, we are planning the delivery needed to achieve the required impact.

3. DIGITAL SKILLS HUB CONTRACT UPDATE

Digital Skills Hub is delivering to target and in line with the contract. Achievements since the last Board meeting include:

Completion of cohort 1 of the Evolve Accelerator
 Basic to intermediate digital skills courses – 3 starts over summer term
 Business focused social media campaign
 Business advisor drop in sessions weekly
 Masterclass series kick off event

KPI's are reported as follows:

Project Deliverables	Target: 2021-2026	Achieved To date: Up to March 2024
# of full-time equivalent (FTE) permanent jobs created through the project	2	1.4
# of full-time equivalent (FTE) permanent jobs safeguarded through the project	1	0
# of potential entrepreneurs assisted to be enterprise ready	114	16
# of enterprises receiving non-financial support	393	210
Number of closer collaborations with employers	165	20
Number of customers/ businesses using the Hub *(includes community use)	10281	3250
Number of qualified new learners in new courses	640	35
Number of referrals to existing courses and facilities	8884	1526
Number of new learners enrolled on existing courses and facilities	1500	60

There has been positive feedback from customers, including securing work outcomes. We are working on production of case studies to reflect the human stories of success to reflect the contextual impact of the hub delivery.

4. DORSET SKILLS BOARD

The Board met in June and the following is shared as a highlight report:

Nicola Newman discussed the Local Skills Improvement Plan first year Progress report with the Board. There was positive comment that the LSIP report reflected the activity collectively achieved by all partners in the county, and there had been real care and attention to describing 'our skills world' whilst helpfully pulling out issues in the sector. In addition, members reported particular items for consideration when finalising the draft report. An employer facing version of the final report will also be published.

The Board discussed challenges in the local landscape, whilst recognising the impact of national decision making and current uncertainty. Seeking to identify where the Dorset 'skills system' might provide resilience to leaders and organisations, we considered the significant cuts in funding in the skills sector, organisational change and impact of population changes and drivers.

All Board members contributed to sharing updates on their organisation's delivery, full details in the minutes found here <https://www.dorsetlep.co.uk/skills-board-committee>

The Labour Market Information to March 2024 was shared with the Board. We have now published the presentation here <https://www.dorsetlep.co.uk/labour-market-insights>

Key highlights from the latest report include:

At a national level, the labour market is now showing sustained signs of softening in terms of labour demand – as the scale of vacancies continues to fall. This is beginning to manifest itself in increasing unemployment, although the rise is still marginal and also from a low level. Economic inactivity remains a significant issue – both economically and politically – and underlying the fact that over 1-in-5 of working age people are currently classified as economically inactive is the proportion that are ill, either temporarily or over the longer-term.

Locally, the Dorset labour market is showing similar characteristics – of a broadly 'flatlining' labour market. However, despite these softening conditions, wage growth remains robust – suggesting that recruitment and retention remains an issue for some employers.

Dorset vacancies have now softened, in line with the national picture reported in 2023, with c.7,950 per month Jan – Mar 2023. Vacancies in BCP are higher than in DC area.

Unemployment remains low at 2.8% compared to 3.8% in the rest of the UK. As with other areas, a good proportion of those aged 16-64 who are economically inactive are long-term sick (the largest contributory factor), with temporary sickness less of a factor. In Dorset LEP area we have 18.8% economically inactive, lower than the 21.3% across the UK.

As is consistently the case, the NHS is by far the largest source of labour demand in Dorset – around 5 times as many as the second largest employer – Dorset Council (excluding recruitment agencies). The NHS and the care sectors continue to face significant skills shortages and recruitment difficulties (as shown by average posting duration). Demand has also been high at local Councils, Haven Holidays, JP Morgan Chase, Tesco, and Bournemouth University. Much recruitment still flows through recruitment agencies.

Employers most frequently requested soft skills were in communication, customer service, management, sales, and detail orientation, alongside personal attributes such as enthusiasm and self-motivation. Specialised skills often cited in job postings include auditing, and project management. This continues longer-term trends.

5. RECOMMENDATION

None – for information only.

DORSET LEP BOARD MEETING COVER SHEET

Meeting Date	18-07-24	Item Number	4.4
Security Level:	Confidential <input type="checkbox"/>	Commercially Sensitive <input type="checkbox"/>	Unclassified <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Paper Title	Dorset LEP Business 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

Growth Hub Delivery 24/25

A positive SWAP audit was achieved for 23/24.

S1 (Details of Expenditure Items and Services, Forecast Spend) and S3 (Conditions of Grant Funding) completed by DLEP and submitted to DBT ahead of deadline with Q1 claim information from Dorset Council.

Activity has commenced on the following four programmes:

Bid Writing Support (to encompass 3 elements)

- **Horizon Scanning Service** - to help businesses identify potential funding sources via private investors, angel investor groups, SWIF, government grants e.g. Innovate UK, DCMS etc.
- **Bid Writing Support** - to provide support to businesses who have identified a grant they wish to apply for. This will be utilised for Marine and Maritime Launchpad Round 2.
- **Bid Writing Masterclasses** – to deliver masterclasses to provide hints, tips and strategy of writing compelling bids for Innovate UK and other Government funding. 2 of these will be specifically for Marine and Maritime Launchpad Round 2.

Business Growth Groups

- A peer support programme to help 40 businesses identify, plan, and implement business growth and productivity actions. 4 sessions per group, 15 hours of support per business. This programme has a focus on Advanced Engineering & Manufacturing, Marine & Maritime, Digital Creative and Visitor Economy established Dorset businesses with growth potential. Open for applications now with groups starting Sept 24.

Funding and Investment Readiness

- A programme of support to help businesses to ensure they have everything in place to successfully apply for investment from private and government sources investors, angel investor groups, SWIF, Innovate UK, grants etc including finance information, pitch decks etc. Two sessions to focus on start-up funding and two sessions on growth / scale-up funding with one business from each session hand-selected for additional one-to-one financial support. This will result in 40 interventions and will run Jan to March 25.

Funding Accelerator

- A part-funded programme of support to help 10 businesses to demystify the investment process, break down barriers and create a level playing field. This programme provides businesses with the tools and techniques they need to encourage investors to back the business. The programme includes three "sprint" sessions, one-to-one support and pitch practice and feedback. 12+ hours of support for each business.

Procurement is underway for 2 additional programmes:

- **Digital, Productivity & Innovation Programme** - a programme of specialist-led digital tech, productivity and innovation advice and support for 25 businesses (12 hours). A delivery partner has been selected and the contract is in the process of being signed.
- **Supply Chain development** - a programme of events to help Dorset companies identify new opportunities within their Advanced Engineering & Manufacturing, Digital Creative and Marine & Maritime business that would benefit the Defence & Security Supply Chain across the SW region and beyond. Events to cover awareness of the sector, opportunities, introductions, networking and funding for Defence & Security sector resulting in 100 interventions.

These programmes are in addition to the **business signposting service**, **CRM management** and **DBT reporting** (monthly, bi-annual and annual).

The **DLEP Business LinkedIn page** is very active with 1498 followers as of 8th July (up from 1486 in May).

Other Activity

Inward Investment – www.investindorset.com is being updated regularly with additional content including business case studies.

Working with DBT partners, BCP Council and Dorset Council the team work to share resource and provide an effective support service for inward investors under the Invest In Dorset (IID) brand.

Dorset LEP lead on the review and updates to DBT Propositions to ensure representation for Dorset.

Innovate UK Marine and Maritime Launchpad – Dorset LEP are working closely with Innovate UK, Maritime UK SW and GSW teams to launch Round 2 of this high-profile funding opportunity - £7.5m pot for projects related to Clean Maritime, Digital Oceans and Marine Autonomy. Two events, organised by Dorset LEP in partnership with Innovate UK, MUKSW, BCP Council and Dorset Council were held in May to highlight the opportunity with relevant businesses. Round 2 was announced at Ocean Tech Expo in Plymouth which Dorset LEP attended; the application window is expected to be Sept to Oct 24. Bid writing support will be offered to all relevant Dorset businesses.

British Business Bank – Dorset LEP are hosting a Meet the Funder event in Oct 24. This is being sponsored by British Business Bank and will include speakers from Dorset Business Angels, Barclays Eagle Labs and British Business Bank.

South West Investment Fund – DLEP continue to promote this £200 million fund for the South West region. Meetings have been held with the fund managers FSE Group to identify opportunities for increased referrals from Dorset and a promotion webinar was held in partnership with FSE Group and Focused for Business in June.

Digital Skills Hub – we continue to provide support for the business elements of the hub in particular Business Mondays, masterclasses and accelerator programme.

Fintech West South Coast – Dorset LEP has partnered with BCP Council and Fintech West to launch the “South Coast Hub” of Fintech West in Dorset. A third event, the largest yet, was held in June at Bournemouth & Poole College's Jellicoe Theatre and included high-profile speakers including the LSE.

Local Nature Recovery Strategy – Dorset LEP is the representative for and link to business on the steering group for this initiative led by Dorset Council in conjunction with BCP Council. Dorset LEP Communications Manager sits on the Comms and Engagement Working Group.

GSW – we continue to work closely with the GSW team on several initiatives including the upcoming Made Smarter Programme (25/26) and Marine & Maritime Launchpad.

UK SPF – BCP Council and Dorset Council UK SPF Programmes continue and are very popular; Dorset LEP regularly refer to these schemes and businesses are referred onto DLEP funded programmes.

Future Farming Resilience – working with Devon County Council and Business Information Point we are driving forward the delivery of support for farmers across Dorset. GSW region is still the highest performing region in England on programme registrations and engagements.

Clusters / Programmes – Dorset LEP continue to play an active role in several clusters / programmes including South West Regional Defence & Security Cluster, Maritime UK South West, South West Agri-Tech, South West Aquaculture Network.

Dorset Ambassadors – The next event will be held on 17th September at AUB.

South West Agritech Showcase – planning is underway for the 2025 event.

3. RECOMMENDATION

None – for information only

DRAFT MINUTES

DORSET LOCAL ENTERPRISE PARTNERSHIP BOARD

3 JUNE 2024 AT 10.00 AM TO 12.30 PM

VIRTUAL MEETING

MINUTES

Board Attendees:

Aaron Lawes (AL)
Cecilia Buffon (CB) (Chair)
Jim Andrews (JA)
Cllr Millie Earl (ME)
Nicola Newman (NN)
Paul Gough (PG)
Phil Sayles (PS)
Cllr Richard Biggs (RB)
Cllr Simon Clifford (SC)
Cllr Vikki Slade (VS)

Also Present:

Aidan Dunn (AD) (Dorset Council)
Chris Shepherd (CSh) (BCP Council)
Glynn Barton (GB) (BCP Council)
Jan Britton (JB) (Dorset Council)
Kathryn Hill (KH) (Dorset LEP)
Rebecca Davies (RD) (Dorset LEP)
Vinita Nawathe (VN) (Dorset LEP)

Apologies:

Ian Girling (IG)
Luke Rake (LR)
Neil Skelland (NS)
Nick Gaines (NG)
Paul Read (PR)

Item	Notes and Decisions	Action
1.	<p>Apologies were received for: Ian Girling, Luke Rake, Neil Skelland, Nick Gaines and Paul Read.</p> <p>Declarations of Interest: no declarations of interest were declared.</p>	
2.	For Discussion	
2.1	<p>Integration Group Update and Next Steps</p> <p>CB reminded the Board that the core functions are being delivered by the LEP during this financial year with the expectation that those functions would be integrated into the local authority structures by 31 March 2025. She informed the board that she and VN had met with Richard Biggs and Simon Clifford to bring them up to speed before this meeting. CB noted that we have a clear understanding of what needs to be transferred, we need to work out what the future model is and what they are going to be transferred to.</p> <p>VS spoke about the four options in the paper and noted that the 4th option is ruled out, as a devolution deal is ruled out at the moment. She said that there is no desire at the Councils for Dorset LEP CIC to carry on, unless Board Members can show there is a reason for it to carry on. She asked Board Members to give their views on the need for a Local Enterprise Partnership.</p> <p>JA said that the LEP has been really good at bringing the collective voice together, particularly around areas like skills and skills development. He asked where that pan Dorset conversation would be in future. It would be really useful to hear what that thinking looks like. He noted that the University was not bound by council areas and worked more widely than the council it was in.</p> <p>NN mentioned that with the LSIP, it is helpful to have a pan Dorset remit, its helpful to understand what is happening across both councils. It will be a loss not to have a pan Dorset view, as it is not just about two councils.</p> <p>CB said, from the conversations she has seen, the work of the integration task and finish group has been done on operational aspects of LEP functions, but a strategic steer was missing.</p> <p>CSh updated that officers have considered a list of the different functions of the LEP and started looking at what the options are with those, eg continuation, transferring or ceasing activity dependent on funding. That piece of work has been done, in a rough and ready fashion. Government guidance has been clear on what it is expecting. How that happens, whether continuation of the CIC or something new, is the discussion that needs to happen.</p> <p>CB said that we do need to have a vehicle for delivery and the challenge is what is that vehicle going to be.</p> <p>NN asked what is the risk to not having that in place and the risk of losing funding. To just have two council areas doesn't feel enough, to have everything delivered through two individual councils who are not working together.</p> <p>AL explained that he was a partner in a local accountancy firm and had joined the board in order to understand and help influence things of interest to</p>	

Item	Notes and Decisions	Action
2.1	<p>Integration Group Update and Next Steps Cont'd</p> <p>for the businesses he dealt with – like skills requirements or opportunities for investment.</p> <p>PS explained that he is part of the Integration Group and attended all but one meeting. It has felt a little slow at times but everything is laid out in this paper. Some functions that the CIC are doing, like the Dorset Careers Hub, need to continue. We need to know whether the councils want to take on these cross Dorset functions. If there is not the possibility or no appetite of that, then a continuation of some sort of body to do that needs to happen.</p> <p>RB said the challenge would be whether we need a business Board, and what the benefits of it are. We could keep a shadow board but are there alternates. There could be a need for a clean break but he did take on board the risk that if we don't have a vehicle we could miss out.</p> <p>AD clarified that any future funding from Government will be channelled through the local authorities and not through the CIC.</p> <p>CB explained that the LEP is a body corporate and the CIC brings together business and the local authority on the board. We have been talking about what the local authority wants to do but it is not in the local authority power to just wind the LEP CIC up. That is a CIC board decision.</p> <p>ME said from the working group perspective, the group were just looking at those functions moving into the local authorities. She said it feels awkward being part of this conversation, as it is up to the Board whether the CIC continue.</p> <p>There was discussion about the options presented in the paper. It was agreed that the Task and Finish Group will work up the practical details of the first two options, possibly looking at the third and bring that to the July Board meeting.</p> <p>The CEC contract was discussed and VN informed that we have to sign the contract up to end August 2025 this week. We have the funding available to continue it. We can sign the contract and, if necessary, give four months' notice and find someone else to continue with the contract. We can novate it to somewhere who can afford to do it. The ask of the board was to agree to take on the contract and to ringfence the liability and match funds necessary for the length of the contract in order that adequate resource was attached to ensure the contract could be delivered to August 2025 by the LEP CIC or another body if necessary.</p> <p>JA confirmed that BU is happy to continue employing the staff but could not agree to take on responsibility for the contract at this point.</p> <p>RD informed that there are also four staff within the councils that are paid for out of this CEC contract, not just the staff in the LEP. If we cancel the contract those staff would also be put at risk.</p>	

Item	Notes and Decisions	Action
2.1	<p>Integration Group Update and Next Steps Cont'd</p> <p>Action: The Board agreed that the CEC contract should continue and should be signed this week for the next academic year with appropriate funds ring fenced to ensure deliverability to August 2025.</p> <p>Action: Options 1 and 2 will be worked up and brought to the July Board meeting.</p> <p>VS and ME left the meeting at 10.49 am.</p> <p>In response to a question from JB, VN clarified that the partnership is not separate from the CIC. The Dorset Local Enterprise Partnership Board is the Board of Directors of the CIC.</p> <p>JB wanted to clarify whether winding up the partnership was the same as winding up the company, as there are decisions that might be made regarding a partnership that are different to decisions that need to be made as a Director and in the best interest of the company.</p> <p>PS said that how he sees it as LEP board member, the functions and purpose of what we are here to do are done in the best way possible. We need to consider what we are trying to deliver and what is the best way to do it.</p> <p>NN left the meeting at 11.00 am</p>	<p>All</p> <p>T&F Group</p>
2.2	<p>Outturn 2023/24</p> <p>VN stated when she joined the LEP, a three year plan was in place that had anticipated no further funding from government and would run down reserves over time. However, ongoing funding and higher than expected interest rates have left the reserves mostly intact. Whilst we are deciding what our future is post March there are still contracts to be delivered and funding streams to account for. If people did want to go with option 3 there is enough money in the reserves to continue to do that for some time.</p> <p>AD explained that the LEP has an Audit Committee which goes through the budget in detail. There is no requirement for an external audit but SWAT do an oversight. There is a proportionate level of oversight for the spend. We have to complete Government returns on what we have done with the money and how we have spent it.</p> <p>Action: The Board approved the Budget.</p>	
2.3	<p>Budget and Delivery Plan 2024/25</p> <p>VN explained to the Board that they are the partnership that owns this plan. She noted an increase in the budget for membership/partnership noting contribution requests to the Great South West including requests to help secure the Pavilion for REIF for next year and associated costs. She said the Directors around the table can be more directive if they want to be.</p> <p>Action: The Board approved the Delivery Plan.</p>	All

Item	Notes and Decisions	Action
3.	For Discussion	
3.1	<p>Update on Strategic Economic Priorities</p> <p>VN started by highlighting if there is a change of Government, the indication is that they will be looking at industrial strategies underpinned by local growth plans. She explained that the document outlines what the emerging, evidenced, economic priorities are. The Board needs to determine the strategic priorities and how to present it.</p> <p>CB stated that our first remit is to get the data and the economic insight.</p> <p>PS said he realises that Government has been somewhat confused and asked a number of bodies to do a number of things. In the FE sector, there are too many different plans for them to follow.</p> <p>JA said this is about our region. He noted that the way BU and many organisations work, they don't really care where the council boundaries are and work best where working pan Dorset. the University operates across both authorities and anything we can do to simplify that the better. Simplifying this for the audience we are working for is really key.</p> <p>VN said that this work is part of the core functions for this year and so we should just get on with it. She invited board members and officers to send in comments and said she felt it would be a useful starting document for what comes next.</p> <p>PG joined the meeting at 11.20 am.</p> <p>CB informed that the evidence data behind the report is available to everyone. She said how useful the data is and that it is used in skills work, used in the LSIP by creating aspects of need. It has been provided to the NHS for use in workforce planning. It is a useful document for people to be able to pick up and use the data. She explained that businesses don't know where county boundaries are either; they don't work to political boundaries, having a strategy that covers the whole of Dorset is very useful.</p> <p>PS stated he finds the data to be in-depth and useful.</p> <p>PG mentioned that he can populate the document with proof points. The Innovation Studio that came out of LEP and European funding, there is a lot of activity that can be used to populate the report with.</p> <p>JA asked if the document could be sent to the Board in a Word format, so he can circulate it round and get more feedback.</p> <p>Action: VN to send report to the Board.</p> <p>Action: Any feedback on the report please send to Vinita.</p> <p>AL left the meeting at 11.35 am</p>	<p>VN</p> <p>All</p>

Item	Notes and Decisions	Action
4	For Noting	
4.1	<p>Business Update</p> <p>RD spoke to the paper and highlighted some specific points.</p> <p>The Marine and Maritime launch pad round 2 will be open soon. We are working closely with a number of companies around Dorset and we are hopeful we will have more bids to put forward this time. RD informed that no Dorset businesses were successful in the last round which is why we have put on two events for businesses and offered bid writing support to help them be more successful for this next round.</p>	
4.2	<p>Skills update (verbal)</p> <p>RD updated that Dorset Skills Board meeting is taking place on Monday 10 June. They will look at the new LMI data that is available. They need to approve the Local Skills Improvement Plan report and as it is the end of a full year since the LSIP was originally published.</p> <p>RD informed the Board that Digital Skills Hub recently won an award for Best Local Partnership and yesterday celebrated the first cohort of the business accelerator.</p> <p>The Dorset Careers Hub has been working hard and February to Easter was packed full of events and careers fairs across the county. The first delivery of Teacher Encounters has taken place, where we take them out of the school and into a business or a training provider. We are over subscribed for this for this year.</p>	
4.4	<p>Board Member Updates (verbal)</p> <p>CB informed that NS wanted to raise that the next GSW Board meeting will be held at BattleLab on 15 July, with Defence being the focal deep dive topic for the Board. NS is seeking attendance from the MOD Director responsible for Levelling Up (although the election might mean civil servants are busy briefing new ministers for the weeks afterwards).</p> <p>PG informed that they have launched their air source heat pumps at the University as part of their Net Zero commitment. They have also started the first 10 apprenticeships in model making towards architecture as a degree apprenticeship.</p> <p>PS mentioned that degree apprenticeships are very important and he is working with HE partners on those. They have an upcoming event launching their strategy to 2030 to external audience and official opening of University Centre Poole. PS will send an invite out to the Board. With their major capital build funded by DfE, the footings are now in.</p> <p>PS said that it looks like Dorset has fallen through the gap regarding funding. The Institute of Technology has brought funding to other areas. The institutions and local authorities need to work together to bring in funding for the area.</p>	

DRAFT MINUTES

Item	Notes and Decisions	Action
4	For Noting	
4.4	Board Member Updates (verbal) RB informed that he attended UK REiff for the first time and that having the drone footage of Weymouth really brought people in for some good conversations. One observation he had though, with the Free Port down in Devon and nearby, questioned why you would come to Dorset. JB said he had had a lot of good conversations with people and they had received a good reception.	
5.	Minutes from the Last Meeting	
	The Minutes were agreed as an accurate reflection of the last meeting. There were no matters arising.	
7.	Any Other Business	
	There was no other business raised.	

Note: Date of Next Meeting - 18 July 2024 at 10.00 am to 12.30 pm – virtual meeting