

ENTERPRISE ZONE COMMITTEE MEETING – CUSHMAN & WAKEFIELD ENTERPRISE ZONE REPORT DISCUSSION

24 MAY 2021 (1PM TO 2PM)

MS Teams Video Conference

MINUTES

Attendees:

John Sutcliffe (JSu) Chair
 Lorna Carver (LC)
 Adam Coffey (AC)
 Glenn Richardson (GD)
 Cllr Tony Ferrari (TF)
 John Sellgren (JSe)

Other Attendees:

Elizabeth Spence (ES), Department of Business, Enterprise & Industrial Strategy (BEIS)
 Daniela Doncakova (DD)

Apologies:

N/A

Item	Cushman & Wakefield EZ Report Discussion	Action
1.	<p>JSu chaired the meeting.</p> <p>The Committee discussed the Cushman & Wakefield (C&W) Enterprise Zone report. The focus of the report is on build out strategy and market. It was commissioned as a property led piece of work.</p> <p>MoD is a key partner and the site will be able to proliferate laterally through defence innovation, using defence as an objective which gives the site a platform for expansion, however, it is crucial to be clear about defence challenges.</p> <p>The park would greatly benefit from having more large-scale tenants; whilst exploring new sectors (i.e. agritech and medical technologies) to fulfil Dorset's ambition. Exploring external links and non-traditional novel defence tenants is crucial, as well as generating links with Universities.</p> <p>The Committee discussed potential Investment into gaps and weaker areas of the site. It would be beneficial to explore the tools, infrastructure, and requirements; for business to be attracted to and operate on the site. (i.e. 5G).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Maximising innovation through networking and interactions via physical collaboration/amenity hub space. This was in the original investment plan. - Considering investment into portal and store data on site. - Office and workshop space. - Large space for conferences and accommodation for visitors - Gatehouse facility (gateway to the site) <p>It is vital that there is a clear understanding what is appealing to the business community. It is critical to have skilled employees on site to drive forward the enterprise.</p>	

<p>It will be important to set clear objectives through the Investment Prospectus and how to build the defence and security cluster around the site. Making the connection between the most strategic level of government policy; imbedded in defence and security industrial strategy; and the physical activities on the site. The land element is only one component. The infrastructure, including digital and transport are important. Dorset Council's role is to bring forward the development whilst retaining the profit as the landowner (i.e. what are the investments, priorities, how are these being built out and how does that benefit the tenants). The Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) is to be updated, due to new Councils being formed, whilst revisiting the investment plan.</p>	LC & JSe
<p>Dorset Council will reflect on the C&W report and will prepare the Enterprise Zone investment plan and how we work together promoting the site. Good communication is going to be vital, getting key messages into the right places. The BattleLab is the anchor, however, the reach is much wider.</p>	Dorset Council
<p>The group affirmed the C&W report, which focused on property and land. 5G project is the beginning to mark this site out. It is important to ensure the link between what we are achieving locally is linked to the governmental agenda. It was agreed that Dorset Council will take the landowner responsibility forward and capitalise on the site; whilst pushing forward with the recommendations that are to set out in the strategy.</p>	Dorset Council
<p>Dorset LEP can assist with exploring the academic presence on site and the interest across the academic community. Perhaps an academic house in the UK could be found that is interested to have a presence on the site. Additionally, Dorset LEP can assist and foster reach into government to help achieve the site's ambition.</p>	Dorset LEP
<p>To date the site has overachieved on delivery of jobs. Job generation forecast should be reviewed and included in the investment plan.</p>	Dorset LEP
<p>Action: Committee to discuss the dedicate site resource agenda item at the next committee meeting. The item will be put on the next meeting's agenda.</p>	Dorset Council
<p>Action: TF and LC to discuss the communications infrastructure that is to be taken forward (layer under the overall industrial strategy into the defence piece and how it evolves).</p>	EZ Committee
<p>Action: JSe and ES to discuss the levelling up fund to feed into the wider park strategy.</p>	TF & LC
<p>Action: Dorset Council to prepare the Enterprise Zone investment plan to discuss at the 8th June meeting. The plan will be circulated to the Committee prior for review.</p>	JSe & ES
<p>The BattleLab is an important project on the site and a key element. The Enterprise Zone and fulfilling its ambition is the second piece; two are separate, but very integrated projects. Both need to be kept in full focus.</p>	TF & JSe

Note: Date of next meetings: 8 June (3pm – 4pm)
 19 July (10am – 12pm)