



**CORNWALL &
ISLES OF SCILLY**
LOCAL ENTERPRISE PARTNERSHIP

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MINUTES of a Meeting of the Cornwall and Isles of Scilly Local Enterprise Partnership held in the Waterside Cornwall, Old Coach Road, Lanivet, PL30 5JJ on Wednesday 29 January 2020 commencing at 10.00 am.

Present:- Mark Duddridge (Chair)
Mark Goodwin (Vice-Chair)

Frances Brennan, Simon Caklais, Bob Egerton CC, Edwina Hannaford CC, Steve Jermy, Emmie Kell, Paul Massey, Louis Mathers, Clare Parnell, Louise Rowe, Gordon Seabright and David Walrond.

Also in attendance:- Glenn Caplin, Phil Mason, John Curnow, Josie Gough, Carol Bransgrove, Nathan Cudmore, Geraldine Baker and Emma Coad

Apologies for absence:- John Acornley, Lucy Edge, Linda Taylor CC and Fran Grottick.
Officers: Craig Dryden.

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

(Agenda No. 1)

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Apologies for absence had been received from John Acornley, Lucy Edge, Linda Taylor CC, Fran Grottick and Craig Dryden.

The Chair advised that this was the last LEP Board meeting for Lucy Edge and Paul Massey as they have come to the end of their second 3 year term. On behalf of the Board he expressed his gratitude for their contribution to the work of the Cornwall and Isles of Scilly Local Enterprise Partnership.

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The Chair further advised that the Whitehall representative would be taking a break from work for the next 6 months. In her absence David Krohn would be supporting her role.

The Board welcomed to the meeting John Curnow, Senior Government Sponsor for the CloS LEP. He outlined his role and how he could provide guidance to the LEP.

The Board was informed that Robert Camp had resigned from the CloS LEP. The Nominations Committee would be considering a replacement in due course.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

(Agenda No. 2)

The following declarations of interest were expressed:

1. Mark Goodwin advised that he had an interest in any agenda items which related to the University of Exeter and that he would not take part in any related discussions;
2. Frances Brennan advised that she had an interest in any agenda items which related to Health and Wellbeing or ESF and that she would not take part in any related discussions;
3. David Walrond advised that he had an interest in any agenda items which related to Truro and Penwith College and that he would not take part in any related discussions.

LEP BOARD (27 NOVEMBER 2019)

(Agenda No. 3)

Minutes

(Agenda No. 3.1)

It was agreed that the minutes of the meeting held on 27 November 2019 were a true and accurate record, subject to the following amendment:

Climate Change Development Planning Document – Bullet point 11 – the words ‘including Plymouth City Council’ be included at the end of the sentence.

Action Summary

(Agenda No. 3.2)

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Actions confirmed at the meeting held on 27 November 2019, details of which were noted together with a summary of ongoing actions.

The Board was updated on the current position in relation to the ongoing actions.

STRATEGIC MATTERS

(Agenda No. 4)

Local Industrial Strategy

(Agenda No. 4.1)

The Board welcomed the Local Industrial Strategy Manager and a representative of Metro Dynamics to the LEP Board meeting.

The Board considered a report prepared by the Local Industrial Strategy Manager regarding an update on progress to date in relation to the Local Industrial Strategy (LIS) and to seek approval from the Board on content, developed through extensive evidence base analysis and expert stakeholder engagement. Delegated approval of minor amendments, copy writing and design was sought following presentation to the Board, both Councils and the Critical Friend Panel.

The Whitehall representative provided an update on the current position from the Government's perspective. She advised that it was important for LEPs to maintain momentum on the development of evidence based Local Industrial Strategies. She informed the Board that the publication of three LISs was imminent. In regard to timings, further details were expected to be made available over the next few weeks.

The Chair advised that Jake Berry MP had reiterated the need for distinctiveness and clarity in the production of LISs.

The Board was informed that since the last meeting there had been ongoing development of the evidence base, including global and national trends and policies, and input from expert stakeholders to develop the content behind the LIS on a page which had been presented to the Board in November. Details were provided of the timetable for presentation and endorsement by the two Councils which would be in step with BEIS timetable. The importance of maintaining the momentum for the ongoing development of the LIS was stressed to the Board.

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The LIS Task and Finish Group had been meeting on a regular basis to discuss feedback and issues. The extent of the stakeholder engagement had been pleasing and the workshop with Directors following the last Board meeting had provided excellent feedback. The suggested changes to the document had been undertaken and indications from the Critical Friends Panel were that the document was on track.

The Local Industrial Strategy Manager provided an update on the work undertaken since the last meeting. She advised that a huge amount of feedback had been received from stakeholders, the majority having been positive and useful. The initial feedback from Government had been also been positive.

Details were provided of the actions undertaken and the areas requiring further discussion by the Board.

The LEP Board Directors reflected on the information provided by officers and Metro Dynamics and commented on the following areas relating to the LIS and LIS on a page:

1. The links into other Government strategies; particular reference was made to the Government's Waste Strategy;
2. The Tevi Project would be evidenced in the LIS as a case study to demonstrate how we use circular economy and environmental growth strategies to help businesses improve their processes, save money and benefit Cornwall's natural environment;
3. The Beacon Project should be incorporated as a case study to reflect that inclusive growth was a strong driver in the LIS;
4. The Board was informed that there had been increased commitment and investment in offshore wind; Cornwall was distinctive as it was the only place in the country that had the capability of providing offshore wind;
5. Reference was made to grid connectivity and smart grids and how this could be better reflected in the LIS; the LIS could provide further detail on energy assets and abilities, particularly those that were unique to CloS;
6. Reference was made to Further Education and Skills input, and how this could be reflected in the LIS;
7. The indication from Government was that the LIS should be distinctive and ambitious;

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8. The Whitehall representative commented that the narrative behind the LIS on a page should demonstrate and include productivity and inclusive employment of higher productivity sectors; focus should be on closing the productivity gap within CloS;
9. It was commented regarding the design, visual appearance, imagery, language and style of the LIS and LIS on a page and the importance of ensuring that CloS was unique;
10. Reference was made to the specific areas in the LIS on a page for further discussion, in particular the potential inclusion of a new section on Creative economy being included as a distinctive strength. The LEP Board had a full and lengthy debate regarding the inclusion of the Creative economy as a distinct strength on the LIS on a page. There was discussion regarding the methodology used and evidence base which had concluded that the creative economy was not a distinctive strength for CloS despite there being evidence of this being a growing sector of the economy. The LIS Task and Finish Group had debated this particular topic and had as a result challenged Metro Dynamics further, however, the Task and Finish Group had not disagreed with the importance of the creative economy as a fast growing area but it was not considered to be a distinct strength for CloS. The Board concluded that the “creative economy” was a priority for the Cornish economy and that it should be a key part of the LIS. This would be expressed as part of the cross cutting “principles of design”. However, it was agreed that this section should be strengthened further and redrafted to reflect the importance the LEP placed on this part of the economy.

Arising from the above, the LEP Executive and officers took on board the comments and concerns of the Board, as follows:

1. The Whitehall representative advised that whilst the elections had disrupted the timetable of the LIS delivery there was now an opportunity to engage with other Government departments and to question how the LIS aligned with Government policy and how it would lead into the Implementation Plan;
2. It was recognised that minimising waste in Cornwall could be better reflected in the LIS;
3. The Whitehall representative commented that the LEP should remain ambitious in the language being used; there was no reason to express caution;
4. The Beacon Project evidence would be researched with a view to using it as a case study;

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5. Further discussions could be undertaken with Board Directors, Steve Jermy and Louise Rowe regarding Energy and Waste being reflected in the LIS;
6. Amendments could be made to the LIS to reflect the ambitious, confident, aspirational and demanding content of the LIS;
7. In regard to the design and visual appearance of the LIS and LIS on a page it was acknowledged that it would be a challenge to ensure that the uniqueness of CloS was captured. A copywriter and designer would be appointed with delegated approval sought for the LIS Task and Finish Group to approve the copy written and designed LIS;
8. The Senior Government Sponsor commented that the presentation of the LIS was important to capture audiences, in regard to Government the content would be key. The CloS LEP was right to be ambitious and push ahead with the development of the LIS. The LIS should reference important Government strategies, such as 'levelling up', Public Health and Waste, however, there was no need to try to reference them all. Feedback on the emerging draft Strategy had been positive. In regard to the LIS on a page, there was a need to ensure that evidence aligned with the five priorities;
9. Further to the debate regarding the inclusion of the creative economy as a distinct strength in the LIS on a page, the advice given by Metro Dynamics was that the creative economy was important to CloS in that it transcended through all the five Foundations of Productivity and that based on the data and evidence that it was not appropriate to have as a single focus; however, amendments would be made to ensure that the importance of the creative economy to CloS be strengthened and that the narrative throughout the draft Strategy and LIS on a page be updated to ensure that it was much clearer;
10. It was suggested that the Creative Industries Task Force, with Emmie Kell as lead liaison with the LIS Task and Finish Group to provide a greater sense of understanding regarding creativity to ensure the content and design was appropriately reflected in the LIS.

Decision:

- 1. That the LEP Board approved the draft CloS Industrial Strategy White Paper, having regard to the comments expressed by Board Directors in regard to the comments raised in debate;**
- 2. That the LEP Board delegated, to the LIS Task and Finish Group, the decision to approve any minor amendments that resulted from the**

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Critical Friends panel feedback and the Cornwall Council and IoS Council endorsement process;

- 3. That the LEP Board delegated, to the LIS Task and Finish Group, the decision to approve the final, copy written and designed CloS Industrial Strategy before the March Board meeting.**
- 4. That the LEP Board, approved the appointment of Emmie Kell, to sit on the LIS Task and Finish Group;**
- 5. That the LEP Nominations Committee be tasked with considering the next stage of recruitment against emerging priorities.**

Action 1: LEP Executive to invite Emmie Kell to sit on the LIS Task and Finish Group.

Action 2: LEP Executive to include an item on the agenda at the next meeting of the LEP Nominations Committee to consider the next stage of recruitment and links to the LIS.

View from Brussels

(Agenda No. 4.2)

The LEP Board considered a briefing note prepared by the Economic Growth Officer providing an introduction to Ralph Bunche who ran the Cornwall Brussels Office.

Ralph Bunche attended the LEP Board meeting and provided the Board with a presentation outlining the view from Brussels at a critical point in time when Brexit was about to be enacted and the negotiations around the future UK/EU relationship would be begin in earnest.

He proceeded to provide the LEP Board with a presentation in regard to the view from the Brussels Office, with reference to the following areas:

1. An overview of what the transition period (31 January-31 December 2020) would mean for Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly;
2. An update on the Brexit process and the preparatory work undertaken;
3. Details in regard to the transition period;
4. Details of EU programmes;
5. Future relationships with the EU;
6. Areas of co-operation;

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7. Interrelationships with the MFF negotiations;
8. EU political change;
9. Green deal;
10. Themes and priorities, including the overarching priorities and key thematic areas.

Arising from the above, the LEP Board Directors made reference to the Delegation visit in March for the Conference of Peripheral Maritime Regions (CPMR) which would provide a showcase opportunity for Cornwall and the role the CPMR could have in helping Cornwall. The Board was advised that CloS LEP had signed the Celtic Sea Alliance.

The LEP Board thanked Ralph Bunche for attending the meeting and providing an update on the current view from Brussels.

Action 3: Emmie Kell and Steve Jermy to liaise with Ralph Bunche in relation to floating offshore wind and the creative economy.

Government Priorities

(Agenda No. 4.3)

The Whitehall representative provided the LEP Board with an update on Government priorities with specific reference to the following areas:

1. Re-shuffle of Ministers in February 2020;
2. Budget announcement on 11 March 2020;
3. Details of current priorities and key critical factors;
4. Recruitment in local area teams;
5. Current Government position in regard to the UK Shared Prosperity Fund and making sure CloS is at the table of design.

Towns Fund Update

(Agenda No. 4.4)

The Board considered a report prepared by the LEP CEO and the Economic Growth Manager providing an update on the progress made in regard to the Government's Towns Fund initiative.

The Economic Growth Manager provided the LEP Board with details of the following:

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1. The work being undertaken to set up the Town Deal Boards for each Town;
2. Membership and governance arrangements for the Town Deal Boards, based on guidance from Government;
3. The role of LEP Board Directors on the Town Deal Boards;
4. The funding arrangements for the Town Deal Boards, how they would be resourced, timetable for roll out and role of the private sector.

In the ensuing discussion, LEP Board Directors and officers made reference to the following areas:

1. Importance of having regard to diversity when establishing the Town Deal Boards;
2. The role of the Priority 1 Access Group and Public Health England;
3. The benefit of providing a direct link between the ESB and Towns Deal Boards through membership;
4. The opportunity the Towns Fund would provide for the LEP;
5. Expressions of interest from Board Directors to sit on the Towns Deal Boards.

The Chair thanked the Economic Growth Manager for attending the meeting.

Decision:

1. **The LEP Board noted the progress that had been made with regards to the Government's Town Fund initiatives;**
2. **The LEP Board nominated the following Private Sector Board Directors to sit on each of the Town Deal Boards in order to contribute to the private sector representation:**
 - Penzance – Emmie Kell**
 - St Ives – Clare Parnell offered to assist and sit on the St Ives Town Board, however, also suggested that new Board Members may also wish to have an opportunity to join the Town Board.**
 - Camborne – Simon Caklais**
 - Truro – David Walrond**

Space Strategy
(Agenda No. 4.5)

The LEP Board welcomed Gail Eastaugh to the Board meeting.

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The Head of LEP Commissioning advised that since the launch of the LEPs Space Action Plan (2018-2030): Human Centred Space in March 2018 a number of key investments and policy developments had provided an opportunity to refresh and expand on the ambition previously set out, building on the framework presented in the emerging Local Industrial Strategy and further articulated the required actions.

Gail Eastaugh provided the Board with a presentation regarding a refresh of the Space Strategy, with reference to the following areas:

1. The strategic ambition for the space sector, defining a set of goals over the short, medium and long term;
2. The 3 main strategic objectives forming the founding of the growth plan;
3. The underlying capabilities within the region to achieve our goals in the space sector;
4. The proposed marketing and communications strategy to reach out to the various external stakeholders including investors, industry and government.

The LEP Board welcomed the refresh of the Space Strategy, Board Directors were of the view that the Space Strategy should be refined to bring it in line with the LIS and economic opportunities. The LEP Board debated the refreshed Space strategy and decided to remove reference to space tourism from the document. This reflected the views of Cornwall Council (as owners of Cornwall Airport Newquay) and the views of the wider board. It was agreed to remove reference to space tourism and provide a clear rationale why.

The Board considered that the Strategy document should pick up the Board Directors comments on data collection, energy intelligence, further education colleges, inclusive growth, low carbon economy and environmental benefits that could be provided from space sector.

Decision: the LEP Board welcomed the Space Strategy Update, and recommends that the Strategy be amended in line with the comments expressed in debate , with final sign off delegated to the LEP Chair and LEP Chief Executive.

NOTED THAT Councillor Bob Egerton had his name recorded as voting against the recommendations in the report.

Action 4: that the LEP Executive liaise with Gail Eastaugh on the amendments to the Space Strategy, with the revised Strategy then going to the LEP Chair and LEP CEO for approval.

Creative Economy Update

(Agenda No. 4.6)

The Board agreed that due to time constraints that this item would be included on a future agenda.

Chair Update

(Agenda No. 4.7)

The Chair provided a verbal update on the latest position regarding the Great South West, including an update on the outcome of a recent meeting with Jake Berry MP and outlined the areas of discussion.

The Chair also commented on the recent Annual Performance Review process, thanking the LEP Executive for their work and Board Directors for their contributions. The LEP CEO provided an update on the the Annual Performance Review.

CEO Report

(Agenda No. 4.8)

The Board considered a report prepared by the LEP CEO regarding overall progress on operational activity.

The LEP CEO highlighted the main points in his report with specific reference to the overall financial position, delivery of the LIS, update on the progress of the UK Shared Prosperity Fund, activity in regard to the Growth Deal, work of the Communications group and details of the risk register.

In the ensuing discussion the LEP Board Directors and officers referred to the following areas:

1. A UK SPF pilot project around 'levelling up' would be good to work up as a proposal, working with the Priority 1 Access Group;
2. Concern was expressed regarding the engagement and delivery by DWP;
3. The Board sought a summary briefing note regarding EU programmes.

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The Board noted the report and the overall progress across operational activity.

Enterprise Zones Board Update

(Agenda No. 4.9)

The Board considered a report prepared by the Interim Head of Investment and Growth which provided an update on activity associated with Cornwall's Enterprise Zones and highlighted key issues to the Board.

Steve Jermy, Board Director outlined the report with particular reference to strategy updates, EZ Growth, Rate Relief, Marine Hub Cornwall, Aerohub+, Strategy Workshop, marketing and performance.

Arising from the above, the Board referred to the promotion of Falmouth Docks, activities at Newquay Airport and the potential for using the site as a venue for a future Board meeting.

The Board noted the update on the activity associated with Cornwall Enterprise Zones.

EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

(Agenda No. 5)

The Board agreed to exclude the press and public from the meeting for item 5.1 due to the confidential nature of the item.

Investment and Oversight Panel Update

(Agenda No. 5.1)

The Board considered an exempt report prepared by the LEP CEO and Chair providing an updated on recent activity of the Cornwall and Isles of Scilly Local Enterprise Partnership's Investment and Oversight Panel.

The Board noted the content of the report.

READMISSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

(Agenda No.)

The LEP Board agreed that the press and public be re-admitted.

FOR INFORMATION ITEMS

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(Agenda No. 6)

Any other business

(Agenda No. 6.1)

Recruitment

The Chair provided an updated on the current position regarding the appointment of Board Directors to fill the vacancies on the Board.

The meeting ended at 3.05 pm.

[The agenda and reports relating to the items referred to above are attached to the signed copy of the Minutes].