

26 February 2014

LEP appoints three new board members

The Cornwall and Isles of Scilly Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) has strengthened its board with the appointment of three new non-executive directors with expertise spanning science, the digital economy and communications.

The voluntary appointments, which take effect immediately, will see the private sector-led board increase from 12 members to 15.

A recruitment drive was launched at the end of last year following the departure of Gaynor Coley and Richard Reed. The new board members are:

Lucy Edge, Director of Satellite Operations at Avanti Communications and General Manager of Avanti's site in Goonhilly, which is undergoing major growth with support from the Government's Regional Growth Fund. Lucy comes from a science and engineering background and has most recently been delivering major projects for Avanti, including its HYLAS 2 satellite mission, launched in 2012.

Commenting on her appointment Lucy said: "Our region is an incredible place to live and work and I look forward to playing my role on the LEP board to create more opportunities for local people and businesses to thrive and prosper."

Paul Massey, Managing Director of Absolute Software Limited in Redruth, which he founded 13 years ago aged just 22. The high growth business now employs 20 staff. Cornwall-born Paul plays an intrinsic role in the continued development of the digital industry in Cornwall and is a founding member of Software Cornwall. He is also a member of the Employment and Skills Board and a trustee of Racehorse Relief.

Paul said: "I am looking forward making a difference for Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly on the LEP board. Specifically, I'm keen to add a digital flavour to the LEP, maintain a strong tie with employment and skills, and provide a voice for small businesses."

Daphne Skinnard, Assistant Editor at BBC Radio Cornwall in Truro. Daphne is the link between the community and the radio station, managing outside broadcasts, events and partnerships with local organisations, and also runs BBC Radio Cornwall's charitable appeals. She is a governor of Truro and

Penwith College, a board member of Kneehigh Theatre, a trustee of the Cornwall Community Foundation and the County Patron for Cancer UK. She was appointed a Deputy Lieutenant in July 2012.

Daphne said: "This is a very exciting opportunity to work with my fellow board members to help shape the future for Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly at such a critical time for our people, businesses and economy, and I am delighted to have been appointed"

The appointments have been welcomed by LEP Chairman Chris Pomfret who said: "Having advertised two private sector posts we received more than 20 applications and were so taken with the quality of applicants that we decided to appoint three people, all of whom will enrich the diversity and capacity of the LEP as we take on more roles and responsibilities.

"We will formally welcome Lucy, Paul and Daphne to the board at our March meeting and I am delighted that we have attracted such a diverse range of expertise which spans science, digital and communications. All three are wholly committed to serving the interests of Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly as we face the challenges and opportunities ahead."

As well as the new appointments, the LEP board includes the following board members:

Chairman Chris Pomfret, who has a wealth of experience of working in business and industry, including senior executive roles at Unilever.

Vice Chairman Chris Loughlin, Chief Executive of South West Water

Anne Carlisle, Vice-Chancellor and Chief Executive of Falmouth University

Robert Davey, Partner at chartered accountants Bishop Fleming

Tom French, Cornwall Council

Julian German, Cabinet member for Economy and Culture, Cornwall Council

Richard McCarthy, Council of the Isles of Scilly

John Pollard, Leader of Cornwall Council

Gavin Poole, Partner at regional law firm Foot Anstey

Roland Tiplady, Chairman of construction consultancy Ward Williams Associates

Simon Tregoning, Chairman of holiday lettings agency Classic Cottages

Andrew Williams, Managing Director of The Lanhydrock Estate Company

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Note to editors:

Cornwall and Isles of Scilly Local Enterprise Partnership

The Cornwall and Isles of Scilly Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) was launched in May 2011. Private sector-led, it is a partnership between the private and public sectors and is driving the economic strategy for the area, determining

local priorities and undertaking activities to drive growth and the creation of local jobs. www.cornwallandislesofscillylep.com

For more information contact:

Jason Clark
DCA Public Relations
01208 77900
jason.clark@dca-pr.co.uk