

## BOARD AGENDA AND BOARD PAPERS

**DATE AND TIME:** 26<sup>th</sup> May 2015, 15.00 - 17.15

**VENUE:** The Incubator, Alconbury Weald Enterprise Campus, Alconbury Airfield, Huntingdon, Cambs, PE28 4WX

Item	Brief description	Time allocated
1. Welcome and Introductions	From Chairman, Mark Reeve	15.00 5 mins
2. Chief Executive Update	Verbal update by Neil Darwin	15.05 15 mins
3. GCGP – 100 days strategy	Paper attached Update by Neil Darwin	15.20 20 mins
4. Developing Smart City Solutions	Presentation Update by Simon Payne, Cambridge City Council	15.40 20 mins
5. Homes and Communities Agency – Northstowe	Presentation Update by Paul Kitson, HCA	16.00 20 mins
6. Growth Deal Update - TWI - Technical Vocational Centre	Update by Neil Darwin	16.20 10 mins
7. European Programme Overview	Paper attached Update by Michael Barnes	16.30 20 mins
8. National Institute for Food and Security Proposal	Paper attached Update by Neil Darwin	16.50 15 mins
9. Minutes from Board Meeting held on 28 <sup>th</sup> April 2015	Minutes attached	17:05 5 mins
10. AOB		17.10 5 mins

**DATE OF NEXT FULL BOARD MEETING: 15:00 on 29<sup>th</sup> June 2015**

### **Item 3: GCGP Strategy for first 100 days of the new Government**

The GCGP economy is one of the UK's jewels. It is a significant contributor to the Treasury and possesses a number of assets that drive national and international economic growth and forms a key component of the UK's Innovation brand. The area has seen rapid growth over the past decade which is set to continue for the foreseeable future, although our growth trajectory may cease if appropriate infrastructure is not delivered.

Despite this positive position, the GCGP economy can do more and build on its undoubted strength. Our businesses can be more productive, but in doing so need certainty that goods and supplies can meet deadlines and ensure certainty of delivery. They require better skills and a community that is work ready and can immediately add value to the business. There are numerous additional benefits to UK plc if we can achieve this productivity gain. GCGP wants to build on its success under the previous government – 2010/2015 specifically:

- We want to see the A14 improvements delivered by 2019
- We want to see our Enterprise Zone at Alconbury Weald mature and flourish by 2018
- We want the Greater Cambridge City Deal to add value to the business growth that Cambridge continues to generate
- We want to see the Ely Bypass delivered at the earliest opportunity by 2019

In the past 5 years, despite the global economic difficulties a total of 25,000 net new jobs have been created across GCGP and a total of 15,000 new homes. Looking ahead GCGP wants to contribute more to UK plc, helping national prosperity, increasing international competitiveness, raising productivity and enhancing the UK's innovation in key sectors such as Life Science, Cleantech, High Value Manufacturing, Creative and Food and Drink.

#### **Our headline priorities 2015-2020**

Working with the new government and our stakeholder committee we will be focusing on the following priorities that will enhance GCGP's economic performance in the short to longer term:

- Ensure all businesses across GCGP have access to high quality digital connectivity
- Further develop our business led skills approach to ensure that our business community plan for, and can access skills, when they are required to drive economic growth
- Improve productivity by tackling congestion at key routes including:
  - Delivery of A14 as agreed with the Department for Transport by 2019
  - A10 improvements beyond the immediate Ely Bypass upgrade
  - A428 dualling and effective connection to the Girton Interchange
  - A47 addressing the largely single carriageway between Norfolk and the Midlands which inhibits GCGP productivity and will support the opening of new markets to investment.
  - A505 Duxford to A11 Southern Cross Route to accommodate future growth of Cambridge Biomedical Campus at Addenbrookes
  - A1307 enabling Haverhill to support Cambridge growth
  - M11-Stansted – support future growth at Stansted Airport with necessary infrastructure

- Electrification of lines including between Felixstowe and Nuneaton to provide an effective freight route and West Anglia line which also requires four-track upgrade to ensure better frequency and capacity between Cambridge and London
  - Enhance capacity on local lines including Peterborough to London Kings Cross and Birmingham to Stansted Airport; including new stations at Alconbury Weald, Chesterton and Ely
- Address current housing concerns by speeding up the delivery of planned housing on major schemes and implement innovative forms of affordable housing

As a base scenario GCGP will deliver 21,000 new homes and 20,000 new jobs between 2015-2021. Enhancing our infrastructure as set out above will enable this delivery to increase.

### **Next steps**

Using these headlines we will seek to work with our stakeholders to ensure that evidence and business cases are readily available to support conversations with funding bodies and Government.

## **ITEM 7: EU PROGRAMME OVERVIEW**

### **Decision Required**

The GCGP Board is asked to:

- a) Note the range of additional funding available to the GCGP area and the scope of opportunities to support the business and stakeholder communities.
- b) Agree that the Executive build the broad range of European Funding opportunities into communications and dealings with business and stakeholders.

### **1. Background**

The Board will be aware of European funding programmes that currently reside with GCGP. These funds only form a proportion of funding available from Europe. This note updates the Board on significant opportunities available to generate smart, sustainable and inclusive business growth through the various programmes, as well as the additional international partnership opportunities available.

### **2. European Structural and Investment Fund programmes 2014-20**

The European Structural and Investment Fund (ESIF) programmes comprise the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF); the European Social Fund (ESF) and part of the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD) and are potentially worth in excess of £135 million in the GCGP area. The provisional allocation for delivery against strategic priorities in GCGP is £32 million ERDF and £32 million ESF, both of which require match funding at a 50% intervention rate. Our provisional EAFRD allocation is £7.5 million.

#### **i) ERDF (European Regional Development Fund)**

Our ERDF facilitators have generated a strong pipeline comprising more than 40 projects across the GCGP area. A first call was launched in March and we expect to see strong applications for projects in innovation and research; ICT; SME Competitiveness and Low Carbon Economy. The first funding agreements for successful bidders are likely to be concluded in autumn 2015 and a second call is expected to be launched in June.

#### **ii) ESF (European Social Fund)**

We have developed a specification with the Department for work and Pensions to procure a three-year programme of employability training that will enable part of our ESF allocation to be matched with relevant government programmes. A further specification is being developed with the Skills Funding Agency to deliver skills provision across the GCGP area. Tenders for bids to deliver both specifications are expected to be launched in September. In addition, a call will be issued in June for ESF projects matched by the Big Lottery Fund aimed to promote social inclusion and tackle poverty.

#### **iii) EAFRD (European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development)**

The first GCGP rural development call will enable us to offer grants for Business Development, Rural Tourism and Food Processing and will be issued in July.

**iv) Community-based initiatives**

In addition, locally-managed rural development programmes under the LEADER initiative will operate in the Fens, Rutland and Rural Peterborough and West Norfolk, with each programme worth approximately £1.4 million. Proposals for similar community-led programmes to tackle urban deprivation in Wisbech and Peterborough are also being developed.

**v) Technical Assistance (TA)**

Local areas are able to bid for TA funding to resource our ongoing work in supporting delivery of ERDF and ESF. A first call for TA projects will be issued in March and we are working to define our TA needs with a view to submitting a bid in June. No TA is available for EAFRD.

**3. EU Territorial Cooperation Programmes 2014-2020**

The majority of the GCGP area is eligible to participate in the 2014-20 Two Seas and France-England Cross Border Programmes, the North Sea and North West Europe Transnational programmes and the Interreg Europe Programme. These all operate within the same set of thematic objectives as ESIF and are often a good way to fund small scale complementary co-operation activities with other EU Member State partners in areas such as innovation and business development, sustainable transport, low carbon growth, resource efficiency and creative industries.

Intervention rates for these programmes is generally higher than mainstream ERDF and can be as high as 75%, thereby making match funding requirements less onerous.

**4. Horizon 2020**

A substantial funding programme for innovation and research, Horizon 2020 covers a range of activities from frontier science to close-to-market innovation and is aimed at SMEs as well as research institutions. The priority areas are: excellent science (addressing future and emerging technologies); industrial leadership (including fostering innovation in ambitious SMEs – not just high-tech ones); and Societal Challenges (on issues including sustainable transport, energy, food security and health, agriculture and climate action).

Horizon 2020 aligns closely with the ERDF innovation and research priority and, where appropriate, our facilitators help to signpost businesses accordingly.

**5. Showcasing GCGP through European Partnerships**

The Board agreed in March to continue to fund a service level agreement with the East of England European Partnership office in Brussels. The office is recruiting a policy officer to focus on EU support for LEP economic development priorities and to maximise EU partnership opportunities for GCGP businesses. GCGP will participate in the recruitment process.

Building on these strong links, GCGP will showcase our innovative use of ERDF to support Cambridgeshire's Mobilising Local Energy Initiative. Leading a partnership comprising representatives

from the Netherlands, Norway, Italy, Poland and Cyprus, we will present at a seminar event at the Brussels Open Days in January. This annual event attracts some 6,000 delegates from around 180 regions and cities in 30 countries and provides a high-profile opportunity to showcase GCGP as a driver of international business growth.

## **Item 8: NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR FOOD SECURITY REQUEST FOR SUPPORT**

### **1. Decision required**

The Board is asked to consider supporting the development of a proposal to establish a National Institute for Food Security in Epping Forest. The request is for a £5k contribution towards a £30k study. Epping Forest have specifically requested this item be brought to the GCGP Board's attention.

### **2. Background**

Epping Forest District Council via the London Stansted Cambridge Consortium have approached GCGP to establish whether we are able to commit £5k to the development of a proposal to locate the National Institute for Food Security in the Epping Forest area.

GCGP has received the brief for the study. There is no current national competition seeking bids from interested locations, nor are any GCGP locations currently seeking to build a proposition.

The brief states that Epping Forest District Council ("the client") is seeking to appoint a partner/consultant to lead a project to carry out a robust feasibility study to assess the feasibility and desirability of a National Institute of Food Security. This study will take into account relevant policies, good practice, needs and longer term benefits. The range of partners supporting this initiative includes many within South East LEP. The link to GCGP is from Uttlesfords participation in the group of Local Authorities working on this proposal.

The aim of this study is to look into the feasibility of delivering the outcome of a major new research centre at a location within the boundaries of participating councils. This would look at issues around land use, need, opportunities, funding options and potential private/public partners etc.

### **3. Next Steps**

It is anticipated that the report will conclude in November 2015. There is no detail on routes to funding beyond this phase.

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF  
GREATER CAMBRIDGE AND GREATER PETERBOROUGH ENTERPRISE PARTNERSHIP  
HELD IN PETERBOROUGH ON TUESDAY 28<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2015**

Present: Mark Reeve (Chairman)  
Cllr Jason Ablewhite  
John Bridge  
Cllr Steve Count  
Trevor Ellis  
David Gill  
Claire Higgins  
Mark Read  
Prof Mike Thorne  
Prof Ian White

In attendance: Steve Bowyer – Board Advisor  
Neil Darwin – Chief Executive  
Michael Tolond – Company Secretary  
Laura Welham-Halstead – Head of Communications and Connectivity

MINUTE NO.		ACTION
2015/32	<p><b>APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE</b> Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Marco Cereste, Cllr Lewis Herbert, Graham Hughes and Cllr James Waters.</p>	
2015/33	<p><b>CHIEF EXECUTIVE’S UPDATE</b> Neil Darwin reported that activity had focused on general election issues particularly in respect of possible LEP changes. The LEP network management board had met with various business representative organisations to discuss LEP issues post-election and the likely framework and structures of LEPs. A preliminary meeting of enquiry relating to the A14 would take place in May prior to a range of statutory meetings and representations from various stakeholders and commitment being sought from all the local councils. Considerable activity was being focused on the City Deal for Greater Cambridge and the 30 year Strategic Plan for the LEP area. It was agreed that Peterborough City Council and Cambridge City Council would be contacted to confirm their participation and commitment to the A14 improvement programme.</p>	ND
2015/34	GCGP BUSINESS PLANS 2015/16	

	<p>Neil Darwin presented the Business Plans for 2015-16 which drew together a broader based plan to enable GCGPEP to proactively develop business cases to secure Government funds and to increase Enterprise activity which deepened the partnerships understanding of business need across the LEP area. The Plan set out the strategic direction of the partnership and the operational activities the Executive would drive forward during 2015/16.</p> <p>The four strategic objectives which had been identified were to create an infrastructure fit got an economically vital high growth area, to remove skills barriers that inhibit growth, to signpost quality advice and funding opportunities to business and to support the key GCGP sectors – Aerospace and Defence, Cleantech, Agri-tech, Creative and Digital, and Life Sciences. Reports on performance outcomes and benchmarking would be monitored by the Board and co-ordination of economic activity with local authorities in the LEP area would also be reported.</p> <p>The Board expressed its intention to become a ‘Premier League’ LEP. It was agreed that the Chief Executive should prepare a paper exploring what action is necessary to achieve this status.</p> <p>The Board approved the Business Plans for 2015/16 and after due discussion on the details contained within the Plans it was agreed that a defined overarching plan, which would be suitable for presentation to Government in the future, would be produced.</p> <p>It was agreed that resources would be leveraged from organisations particularly in the LEP and other interested groups in order for the LEP to meet its objectives.</p>	<p>ND</p> <p>ND</p> <p>ND</p>
2015/35	<p><b>SKILLS UPDATE</b></p> <p>Neil Darwin presented the skills update which was aimed to clarify the ways in which GCGP would seek to influence Skills Funding Agency (SFA) controlled funding. GCGP intended to change from a policy of influence by relationship to a pro-active approach using the parameters of the SFA policy document. GCGP would ask the SFA to provide details of the scale of current funding being delivered in its geography and its current uses, would identify funding within the current budget that could be utilised to support local businesses, would produce a concise strategy document setting out how it would work with SFA funding partners and how partners could support this, and would build this work into its 2015/16 work programme.</p> <p>The Board supported the approach to skills issues in order to set clear terms for the way in which GCGP would seek to influence SFA controlled funding.</p>	
2015/36	<p><b>GROWTH DEALS UPDATE</b></p> <p>Neil Darwin reported that activity was continuing on the Growth Deal projects including the various road projects and other infrastructure investments. Details would be circulated to Board members including progress and key activities.</p> <p>It was agreed that representations would be made to Network Rail in respect of withdrawal of funds for level crossings in the LEP area.</p>	<p>ND</p> <p>ND</p>

2015/37	<p><b>INVESTMENT COMMITTEE UPDATE</b></p> <p>Neil Darwin presented details of the following decisions made by the Investment Committee on 30<sup>th</sup> March:</p> <p>The request from Cambridgeshire County Council to delay repayment of the loans for Ely Crossing and Huntingdon Link Road totalling £1,671,000 was declined; the approval of a loan of up to £433,908 for Webbs Hole Sluice Northstowe; the delegation of approval of a GPF loan to Larkfleet Homes for up to £500,000 for Oakham Heights Local Centre.</p> <p>Subject to certain conditions: the skills service project to be extended into 2015/16 with a full review of the outputs achieved in 2014/15 and a full review of the costs; agreement to allocate £50,000 for feasibility work on private sector led projects and match funding from the private sector partner; up to £5,000 paid to Finance East for pipeline project Fibreboard; £200,000 to be allocated in GPF funding to the signpost2grow project to enable an ERDF funding bid to be made for match funding of £500,000; the Growth deal funding to be split into 2 elements, phase 1 (£1.75m at Granta Park) (£1.85m at Alconbury Enterprise Zone). The above decisions to make available total funds of £4,143,820 were ratified by the Board.</p>	
2015/39	<p><b>HS2 ESIF SUPPLY CHAIN</b></p> <p>Neil Darwin presented the proposal to obtain GCGP's involvement in the High Speed 2 (HS2) Supply Chain Initiative. This was aimed to secure GCGP's involvement in the project development offer while making clear that the programme needed to be considered more than just a West Midlands offer. It would also give approval to the Executive to develop the project and route into GCGP's ESIF commit once the project was in a position to be considered for funding.</p> <p>Greater Birmingham and Solihull LEP was seeking an allocation from each Midland LEP of £75,000 towards the programme to be only invested in SME's within their respective area.</p> <p>After due discussion the Board agreed that it would not support investment in this programme.</p>	
2015/40	<p><b>ENTERPRISE ZONE UPDATE</b></p> <p>Neil Darwin circulated the proposal to support an approach designed to galvanise progress at Alconbury Weald.</p> <p>This would utilise a specialist lead generator support to develop a case to take back to Urban and Civic. It would examine how Alconbury Weald could become a recognised location for inward investment in the short to medium term, what was the nature of investment enquiries that Alconbury Weald should be competing for, was there a dominant sector which Alconbury Weald could align to and could a lead generation be developed for Alconbury Weald. The Board supported the approach so that appropriate pressure could be applied to Urban and Civic in order to further develop the Alconbury site.</p>	
2015/41	<p><b>VCSE STRATEGY</b></p> <p>Laura Welham-Halstead reported that GCGP had developed a Voluntary, Community and Social Enterprise (VCSE) Strategy to guide and support the</p>	

	<p>creative engagement of VCSE sector organisations and to assist with the delivery of the LEP's economic development objectives. The strategy would aim to drive business led training provision, to tackle worklessness and social exclusion and to attract funding into the LEP localities adding value, delivering greater effectiveness and improved delivery and outcomes. A detailed action plan would be created and developed in conjunction with the LEP's VCSE Forum led by Claire Higgins.</p> <p>A further £450,000 investment into Round Two of the LEP Prize Challenge (from GPF) would be required after the review of Round One of the Challenge. The Board approved the VCSE strategy and the creation of an action plan to deliver the objectives. The Board noted the results of the LEP Prize Challenge Round One and approved the launch of Round Two and the £450,000 investment.</p>	
2015/42	<p><b>APPROVAL OF MINUTES</b></p> <p>The minutes of the meeting held on 30<sup>th</sup> March 2015 were approved and the various matters arising were noted as having been actioned or in progress. The paper on the membership and terms of reference for the GCGP sub groups would be presented at the June meeting.</p>	ND
2015/43	<p><b>ANY OTHER BUSINESS</b></p> <p>1) <u>A1/A47 Wansford</u></p> <p>Trevor Ellis queried whether there would be any LEP involvement or intervention in traffic issues affecting the A1/A47 south spur at Wansford. It was confirmed that this issue fell within the remit of the Highways Agency.</p>	
2015/44	<p><b>DATE OF NEXT MEETING</b></p> <p>The date of the next meeting was fixed for Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> May 2015 at 3pm at Alconbury Weald.</p>	