

BOARD AGENDA AND BOARD PAPERS

DATE AND TIME: 6th June 2017, 15.00 – 17.00

VENUE: CLUB ROOM 4, THE CLUB BUILDING, ALCONBURY WEALD ENTERPRISE CAMPUS, ALCONBURY, CAMBS PE28 4WX

Item	Brief description	Time	Access/circulation prior to board meeting
1. Welcome and Introductions	From Chairman, Mark Reeve	15.00 5 mins	
2. Declarations of Interest	Board Members are asked to confirm any personal interest in the items set out in this agenda		Board & Corporate Members
3. Chairman's Update	Verbal update Update by Mark Reeve	15.05 10 mins	Board & Corporate Members
4. BEIS Update	Verbal update Update by Kris Krasnowski, Deputy Director, DCLG	15.15 5 mins	Board & Corporate Members
5. GCGP LEP Strategy Update	Presentation by Paul Sayles & Karl Gardiner	15.20 15 mins	Board & Corporate Members
6. Urban&Civic Update	Update on success of Alconbury Weald and the 30 year vision Tim Leathes, U&C in attendance	15.35 20 mins	Board & Corporate Members
7. Skills Area Review	Update on outcomes of the Area Review and implications for the LEP Paper by Stella Cockerill	15.55 20 mins	Board & Corporate Members
8. Strategic Economic Evidence Base Update	Presentation by Adrian Cannard	16.15 20 mins	Board & Corporate Members
9. Growth Deal Update	Progress update on projects Paper by Adrian Cannard	16.35 15 mins	Board & Corporate Members
10. Minutes from Board Meeting held on 25 April 2017	To agree Minutes	16.50 5 mins	Board & Corporate Members
11. AOB		16.55 5 mins	Board & Corporate Members

DATE OF NEXT MEETING: 15:00 on Tuesday 18 July 2017

VENUE: THE CLUB BUILDING, ALCONBURY WEALD ENTERPRISE CAMPUS, ALCONBURY, CAMBS PE28 4WX

Item 7: Skills Update

Recommendation

The Board is asked:

- i. To note all nine recommendations of the Area Review (Appendix 2) and formally accept them;
- ii. To note and formally accept recommendations 5 & 6 (Appendix 2) in relation to iMET and the proposed joint venture approach and partnership working to deliver a regional centre of excellence;
- iii. To note and formally accept recommendation 7 (Appendix 2) which identifies the need to ensure appropriate transport is available and publicised to support access to skills. The lack of and/ or cost of transport for full time learners and young apprentices is the most limiting factor in ensuring access to young people and adults to education and skills. Fenland and East Cambridgeshire were impacted on most with respect to this recommendation; and
- iv. To endorse the following approach which will ensure that the recommendations of the Area Review are delivered. The Head of Skills will develop an internal plan to ensure we are meeting our obligations and leading and driving activity, where appropriate, to support the recommendations. This will be brought back to a future Board meeting as part of the business plan. The plan will include the following strands of activity for the period September 2017- 2022;
- v. For the Board to approve the recruitment of an additional post subject to 100% funding being confirmed by the Careers Enterprise Company.

Introduction

GCGP is working in partnership with our FE partners to produce a data strategy that will enable us to annually identify the skills needs across the patch and support colleges and other providers to plan and shape their curriculum. This will enable us to monitor change and impact of our activity in relation to skills. There will also be a need to convert this intelligence into formats that can influence the decisions young people make about their careers (enabling career decisions to be aligned to local skills gaps) and support teachers to be better aware of the local economy. The data strategy will include key messages from the Strategic Economic Plan refresh and detailed research to support the development of iMET. This will require resource and a detailed plan (with costings) and this will be submitted to the Board as part of the business plan, for approval at a future Board Meeting.

The East Cambridgeshire Skills Forum was launched on 15th March 2017. It provides a forum to connect schools, colleges and employers. The group is being led by East Cambridgeshire District Council, but is a partnership between key partners including GCGP. We are supporting this through existing resources in terms of staff time. We propose to continue to support this, but also seek to assess appetite with partners in Fenland to develop a similar infrastructure.

We are currently negotiating with the Careers Enterprise Company an addition to our contract that will fund an additional post to cover these two New Opportunity Areas (Fenland and East Cambridgeshire) with a focus on employer engagement. Board approval is being sought to recruit an additional post subject

to funding being confirmed by the Careers Enterprise Company (we are expecting that we will not be required to match fund this post but 100% of staff costs will be funded).

We are developing a new business led approach to support local businesses to engage with skills and address the challenges businesses face around recruitment of young people (pilot this in East Cambridgeshire and Fenland). We are developing a proposal that is based on a strategic alliance with GCGP and a charity called Believe in Young People (BiYP). The basis of this is to provide a business led model that seeks to support businesses to recruit young people. The proposal focuses on a concept of businesses offering 'working interviews' to young people aged 14-19. The duration of a working interview would either be 5 to 10 days or for up to 3 months in any 12-month period (expected this will be for level 3 post 16 learners only). A working interview is a new, more focused, form of work experience that has a high level of competency assessment and feedback. In addition, the placement matching process focuses on the skills and attributes of young people and how they align to the person specifications of future job vacancies. The basis of the model is that employers will contribute to the costs of this. The model has been tested by BiYP and for every 3-young people engaged in a working interview (cost of £510 per placement) one progresses into employment. When we hit 10, 000 young people engaged in the process the model will generate income that can be reinvested back into our work around skills and employability for young people or used to offset employer contributions.

Background and update

The Greater Cambridge and Greater Peterborough Area Review took place between 6th December 2016 and concluded on 28th March 2017. We were the last of 5 waves of Area Reviews. The Review was chaired by The FE Commissioner and supported by the Skills Funding Agency, the Education Funding Agency and the Department for Education. The following participants took part in the GCGP Area Review;

Organisation	Role
GCGP	Identify the skills priorities
Peterborough City Council Cambridgeshire County Council Rutland County Council	Identify the educational/skills needs of residents
Peterborough Regional College Cambridge Regional College Huntingdonshire Regional College Long Road Sixth Form College Hills Road Sixth Form College	FE Colleges being reviewed
College of West Anglia	FE College formally reviewed as part of New Anglia's Area Review, but also shared data with GCGP Area Review. The College of West Anglia has 3 sites two of which are in the GCGP areas and the main site is based in King's Lynn.

The aim of Area Reviews is to deliver;

- Institutions that are financially viable, sustainable efficient and resilient and deliver maximum value for the public investment
- An offer that meets the educational and business needs
- Providers with strong reputations and greater specialisms
- Colleges that are well equipped to respond to the expansion and reform of the apprenticeships reform programme
- Sufficient access to high quality education and training for all

The Area Review reviewed and considered;

- The skills priorities identified by the LEP - our Skills Conclusions are available on our website <http://www.gcgp.co.uk/skills-conclusions/>
- The priorities for learners and residents as set out by the Local Authorities/Combined Authority (appendix 1)
- A range of data relating to all forms of post 16 publicly funded learning and training including Apprenticeships, Adult Community Learning and the Adult Education Budget. Performance and achievement and travel to learn patterns were also examined.

The outcome of the Area Review is to make recommendations that are taken forward by the participants. The nine recommendations can be found in appendix 2. Each college, the LEP and Local Authorities are asked to formally adopt the recommendations.

Appendix 1 – Area Review

Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Area Review – The LA and LEP ask.

Vision for the area

- Accessible learning for all and for it to be a learning society which meets the needs of residents and businesses
- To retain a broad offer of all post-16 providers to support access to provision for both individuals and employers
- To strive to have the best results in England

Key challenges for the area

THE CURRICULUM OFFER

- Access to skills development pathways for all learners, with a focus on the vulnerable, with progression from L1 to L2 and L3 through to L4 in apprenticeships
- Travel to learn - transport links are established around current FE campus locations, but there is a need in some geographical locations where transport is presenting a challenge ie Rutland and Cambridgeshire
- The post-16 offer supports key areas of business demand and growth
- Develop the higher education (HE) offer, including apprenticeships
- Developing the HE provision in Peterborough
- A need to strengthen provision in Fenlands, East Cambs and Rutland
- High level of residents in Peterborough and Fenland with language barriers as English is not their first language

EMPLOYER

- Insufficient employer involvement in both curriculum development, delivery and work place opportunities

IAG

- High level of students being retained in schools for A level provision that has not been supported by robust IAG

Key messages for colleges (Asks of Colleges)

THE CURRICULUM OFFER

- Increased liaison between Colleges and work in partnership with other providers ensuring provision supports the progression of all learners into traineeships/apprenticeships and that we have an appropriate offer to support pathways to the priority occupations (IT & Engineering) in the EMSI report pages 4, 5 and 6 that support GCGP's Growth sectors
- Develop learning pathways to meet all learner needs and both lower and higher levels

EMPLOYER

- In response to the introduction of an employer led system, develop effective methods of aggregating employers needs to ensure that the sector is able respond to the needs of small and micro businesses

- Address the issues regarding young people not being work ready

IAG

- What could FE partners do differently in terms of Careers Education Information Advice and Guidance and their marketing strategies to stimulate demand for priority occupations/programmes?

Other thoughts

- What do you need from the LEP and or Local Authorities to support you to meet the needs of learners and businesses?

Appendix 2 - Greater Cambridgeshire and Greater Peterborough Area Review

Final recommendations

The following nine recommendations are based on proposals put forward by the colleges in the Greater Cambridgeshire and Greater Peterborough review area. These were finalised and agreed at steering group 5 on 28th March 2017.

1. Hills Road Sixth Form College (SFC) to standalone.
2. Long Road SFC to explore academisation as its preferred strategic option, or otherwise to remain a standalone sixth form college.
3. Peterborough Regional College (PRC) to stand alone with a continued focus on quality improvement.
4. Cambridge Regional College (CRC) and Huntingdonshire Regional College (HRC) to merge with a specific focus on improvement of quality and long-term financial stability.
5. CRC/HRC and PRC to create a Joint Venture for the iMET centre to deliver specialist higher and degree level technical pathways for the manufacturing, engineering and technology sectors.
6. The College of West Anglia to work with colleges in the GCGP review area, LEP and local authorities to develop a coherent offer for GCGP residents (especially in the Fenland area) and explore links with the iMET Centre aligned to specialisms at the Wisbech and Milton Campuses.
7. GCGP LEP, Cambridgeshire County Council, Peterborough City Council, Rutland County Council and Colleges to explore options to plan and publicise travel arrangements in the interests of efficiency and improved service for students.
8. GCGP LEP and Cambridgeshire County Council to collaborate with Colleges in the Greater Cambridgeshire and Greater Peterborough area to improve and develop an accessible post-16 offer for Fenland and East Cambridgeshire whilst avoiding needless duplication.
9. GCGP LEP, Combined Authority and Colleges to ensure there is a forum to allow a strategic dialogue to take place around skills provision and the needs of local employers and residents, supported by regular intelligence sharing to inform curriculum development. The group will monitor and support the delivery of the area review recommendations.

Item 9: Growth Deal Update

Recommendation

- i) **That the Board notes progress with Growth Deal.**

1. Introduction

This report provides the regular update on GCGP's Growth Deal risk register.

2. Growth Programmes - Progress to Date

Two more projects have successfully completed in the last month. The first is the Signpost 2 Grants programme (phase 1). This was the small capital grants scheme for Small and Medium Sized Enterprises to promote private sector investment and job growth. This innovative programme was established to act as a pilot prior to securing a longer term programme from EU funding (under ERDF). It ran during 2016/17, and has allocated nearly £182,000 to SMEs. This has delivered 30 new jobs and attracted £560,000 of private sector matched investment, along with other business benefits obtained through engagement with GCGP's Signpost 2 Grow service. The replacement Signpost 2 Grants ERDF project was successfully bid for, and is now up and running at <http://signpost2grow.co.uk/support/signpost-2-grants/>

The second project is the purchase and installation of training simulators for heavy plant machinery (including cranes). This project was undertaken by the Construction Industry Training Board (CITB) focused on their National Construction College East centre at Bircham Newton, King's Lynn. This significantly expands the ability to meet specialised construction skills needs and the resilience of the training offer (being all-weather).

Following the appointment of a new Programmes Coordinator and Contract Manager within the Growth Team we are carrying out a review of progress on all Growth Deal projects, including a stress-test of the anticipated project outcomes.

3. Progress and Risk Register

The attached Risk Register highlights current progress on schemes.

#Project/Programme	Progress	Major Risks	Action to minimise Risk
<i>Italics show change last report. Colours show risk rating (RAG). Arrows show movement in risk rating.</i>			
[INFRASTRUCTURE] A14 Cambridge to Huntingdon Improvement. ✓	Approved by Minister May 2016 – under construction	Local funders fail to make contributions	(a) Alconbury Weald EZ to be supported to achieve outcomes
[SKILLS] Food Centre of Excellence, Peterborough Regional College ✓	Construction complete	Training outcomes achieved	Monitoring process established. Working with PRC to achieve learner outcomes.
[INFRASTRUCTURE] Bourges Boulevard Phase 1 ✓	Project completed	Impact achieved	Monitoring process established
[DEVELOPMENT] High Tech Company Expansion ✓	Construction complete	Business outcomes achieved	Monitoring process established
[DEVELOPMENT] Cambridge Biomedical Innovation Centre ✓	Construction complete	Business outcomes achieved	Monitoring process established
[SKILLS] Highways Academy. ✓	Construction complete. Minister opened	Training outcomes achieved	Monitoring process established
[INFRASTRUCTURE] Peterborough A47 Junction 20 ✓	Construction complete	Impact achieved	Monitoring process established
[BUSINESS SUPPORT] Signpost 2 Grants (Growth Deal). ✓	Signpost 2 Grants was launched with GD funding to run until EU funding available (Oct 2016).	Successful applicants fail to claim	Monitoring process established: 30 jobs created, £540,000 private sector leverage
[SKILLS] Institute of Advanced Construction - Simulators (CITB) ✓	Project completed	Training outcomes achieved	Monitoring process established
[INFRASTRUCTURE] Lancaster Way Business Park phase 1	Project completed	Outcomes achieved	Business Units have been built and occupied.
[SKILLS] iMET Technical and Vocational Centre, Alconbury Weald ↔	Full Business Case 17 th March 2016. HRC merger with CRC due July 2017. Roof on April.	(a) Operating model (b) Prospect of cost increases due to revised fit out requirements	(a) CRC bringing their curriculum expertise (b) Close working with CRC/HRC to progress project

[BUSINESS SUPPORT] Agri-Tech Grant Initiative 	Programme extended by £1.5m. Board agreed March 2017	(a) Pipeline projects don't translate into viable approvals	(a) Healthy pipeline of projects
[DEVELOPMENT] Haverhill Innovation Centre 	Dec 2015 Board approved	(a) Developer not willing to proceed	(a) Developer exploring options. St Eds BC commissioned consultant advice due June. (b) support through Enterprise Zone activity
[INFRASTRUCTURE] Bourges Boulevard Phase 2	Dec 2015 Board approved Business Case. Bishops Road – underway. Lower Bridge St public realm – completion mid June. Rivergate Gyratory – completion mid-June. Queensgate Footbridge – start 15/05. Crescent Bridge public realm – Design work. Henry Penn Walk – completion May 2017	(a) Normal scheme delay risks	(a) Regular engagement with applicant (b) Scheme split into 7 smaller schemes to better programme manage
[INFRASTRUCTURE] Ely Southern Bypass 	Dec 2015 Board. Government approval Dec 2016. Under construction.	(a) Construction risks <i>(b) Funding agreement not completed with CCC – awaiting information</i>	(a) Project management process <i>(b) Scheduled regular mtgs with CCC Section 151 officer</i>
[INFRASTRUCTURE] King's Dyke Level Crossing 	Dec 2015 Board approved business case.	(a) Construction – risk of delays over willing of landowners to allow access (without CPO) <i>(b) Lack of project updates</i>	(a) County Council in dialogue with the landowner. <i>(b) Raised project update issue with CCC</i>
[INFRASTRUCTURE] Wisbech Access Strategy  - Rail - Access Study	Board agreed £1m over 2 yrs. Rail - GRIP2 Study July 15. Level Crossing Report end April 16. Note on revised BCR March 17. Transport Access Study – report due June 17	(a) Projects fails to achieve VfM assessment	(a) A47 Thorney to Wisbech Walton Highway Initial Options Study completed. <i>(b) Rail GRIP3 business case deferred.</i>
[INFRASTRUCTURE] A428 St. Neots to Cambridge public transport access (post 15/16 Provisional	Consultation in 2016 on schemes along the A428 corridor into western Cambridge. <i>Further work on potential P&R</i>	(a) <i>City Deal considered consultation results on options in October 2016. Further work commissioned on options</i>	(a) Partners working together through both City Deal Executive Board and GCGP Board

project, co-funded with City Deal) 	<i>sites underway Spring 2017</i>		<i>(b) Second round of consultation expected in Autumn 2017</i>
[INFRASTRUCTURE] M11 Junction 8 	Discussions on potential options. Scheme not due to enter programme until 2020	(a) No viable business case	(a) Develop business case with Uttlesford DC and Essex CC.
[INFRASTRUCTURE] Growing Places Fund 2 in Growth Deal 	WATA EZ Plant Training completed. Medtech Accelerator investment made. Lancaster Way 2 Loan and Grant agreed – <i>on site and progressing</i>	(a) Need good quality projects (b) <i>Lancaster Way phase 2 potential for delay due to changing scope of feasibility work (for road access)</i>	(a) Working with businesses and partners on pipeline (b) <i>Raised with CCC Transport at 17th May Project Board – CCC exploring options and reporting back</i>

Legend

Arrows show change in risk since last report. Colour shows nature of risk (Red, Amber, green).

Red italics are updated text. Updated: 23rd May 2017

Item 10: Minutes from Board Meeting held on 25 April 2017

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF GREATER CAMBRIDGE GREATER PETERBOROUGH ENTERPRISE PARTNERSHIP HELD AT ALCONBURY WEALD ENTERPRISE CAMPUS ON TUESDAY 25TH APRIL 2017

Present: Mark Reeve (Chair)
Peter Abel
John Bridge
Cllr Steve Count
Steve Elsom
Terry Elphick
David Gill
Cllr Oliver Hemsley
Claire Higgins
Cllr John Holdich
Cllr Robin Howe
Prof Iain Martin
Mark Read
Cllr James Waters

In attendance: Adrian Cannard (GCGP)
Karl Gardiner (GCGP)
Paul Sayles (GCGP)
Laura Welham-Halstead (GCGP)
Steven Bishop (Independent Assessor, Steer Davies Gleave)
Graham Hughes (Cambs County Council)
Chris Malyon (Cambs County Council – Section 151 Officer)
Pete Northover (BEIS)

MINUTE NO.		ACTION
2017/33	<p>APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE Apologies for absence were received from Board Members Trevor Ellis and Prof Andy Neely (the new University of Cambridge representative), Board Observer Cllr Lewis Herbert and Board Advisor Steve Bowyer.</p>	

2017/34	<p>DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST</p> <p>Mark Read declared an interest in respect of item 6 – Skills Area Review as he is the proposed Chair of the East Cambridgeshire Skills Forum.</p> <p>Steve Elsom declared an interest as an employee of Lloyds Bank in respect of the statement made by the Chairman relating to the financial position of the LEP.</p>	
2017/35	<p>CHAIRMAN’S UPDATE</p> <p>Mark Reeve updated Directors to inform them that the Chief Executive’s period of secondment to the Greater Cambridge Greater Peterborough LEP from Peterborough City Council was due to expire at the end of March, but it was extended until 28th April. MR noted that any settlement costs should Neil Darwin’s employment end during his secondment period would be the liability of the LEP. Appropriate external legal advice had been sought on this matter.</p> <p>The Executive Director: Investment, Executive Director: Finance & Operations and Head of Communications & Connectivity of the LEP had assumed responsibility for the management of the business. It was agreed that a new Chief Executive would be recruited using external agencies where appropriate and the process would be run by the LEP HR Lead working with the Remuneration and Nominations Committee chaired by a private sector Board Director. It was also agreed that an interim Chief Executive would be recruited using outside recruitment agencies and, where appropriate, recommendations from Board members.</p> <p>Mark Reeve reported that a Learning Outcomes Review would be undertaken following allegations made by a whistleblower relating to statements allegedly made by the Chief Executive in respect of certain individuals based within the LEP area. In the light of these allegations it was agreed that a Learning Outcomes Review would be made by an independent external organisation and quotations would be sought from three organisations before the work was commissioned to enable the Board to be fully appraise of the situation.</p> <p>The Board fully supported the requirement for the investigation taking into account that this would entail additional expenditure even though payment of the LEP’s core funding had been delayed.</p>	
2017/36	<p>PROGRESS REVIEW OF GOVERNANCE ISSUES</p> <p>Mark Reeve reported that Kris Krasnowski, Deputy Director of the Cities and Local Growth Unit, provided feedback to the LEP following a desktop review of the LEP’s Governance. The following areas were flagged for improvement:</p>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transparency – the LEP is now required to publish Board papers in advance of meetings, alongside the timely publication of minutes of meetings, including ensuring decision points and discussion points are fully evidenced. • Conflict of Interest – GCGP’s management of conflicts of interest required an overhaul, including the immediate development of a comprehensive policy that is accessible, transparent and builds on LEP and local government best practice. • Compliance with the National Assurance Framework – whilst the Board and Section 151 Officer signed off on GCGP’s Assurance Framework as compliant, based on the amendments required above, the LEP’s Assurance Framework does not currently fully comply with the National Assurance Framework. <p>Mark Reeve stated that given the correspondence from the Cities and Local Growth Unit team highlighted that the LEP was currently non-compliant with the National Assurance Framework, Government had decided to delay payment of both the LEP’s Local Growth Fund allocation and core funding for 2017-18. The funds would be transferred once the LEP had provided written evidence that the issues raised had been addressed and that the LEP was fully compliant with Government’s Assurance Framework.</p> <p>The Board reviewed the following amendment to the LEP’s Assurance Framework:</p> <p>“The agenda and papers for meetings of the Board will be published on the LEP’s website at least five clear working days before the date of the meeting of the Board. Any material which is confidential or exempt shall be marked as such by officers of the LEP and shall not be published on the LEP’s website. When the Board meets they shall decide whether the material marked confidential or exempt by the officers should remain unpublished, and if so, they shall record in the minutes why the material is not to be published. All decisions of the Board will be recorded in the minutes and will be published on the LEP’s website within five clear working days of the date of the meeting.”</p> <p>The Board were happy with the amendment, subject to a clause that could allow for urgent Board papers for decision by Directors to be tabled at meetings with the Chairman’s approval being added. LWH to update the clause and have it reviewed by the lawyers before circulating by email to the Directors for final Board agreement.</p> <p>The updated Scheme of Delegation was reviewed and it was agreed that the Board would appoint a Vice-Chair in accordance with its Articles of Association. Any references to Board approval for pay awards would be replaced by</p>	<p>LWH</p>
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	<p>‘remuneration committee approval’. The Scheme would be updated and circulated electronically for any further comments before final agreement.</p> <p>The Board reviewed the Register of Interests and Conflicts of Interest Policy that had been tabled at the meeting and approved the policy subject to the following amendments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Declaration of Interests – second line paragraph one and fourth line paragraph two, insert ‘and the way in which it relates to an agenda item’. Procedure for Managing Conflicts – third line paragraph one, insert ‘discussion, debate’ prior to ‘vote’ paragraph to delete item no 3. • Terry Elphick requested that Board members should receive advice and formal training on governance and legal issues from external legal advisers and this was agreed by the Board. MR noted that this was the next item for approval by the Board. The Board approved the recommendation for training from the LEP’s lawyers. <p>The Board formally agreed to the proposal submitted by Cllr Holdich to put on hold the proposed independent Governance Review in the light of work undertaken by Government and ongoing conversations with the NAO, but with the option to reinstate it - with Board approval – in the future if required, as per the paper.</p> <p>Mark Reeve reported that a meeting would take place with the National Audit Office on Tuesday 2nd May to discuss governance issues relating to the LEP. It was confirmed by the Board that if any individual conflicts of interest relating to Directors were not identified by either the NAO or DCLG investigations, these could be investigated by the Board itself if it so wished, as per the recommendation from Cllr Holdich noted above.</p> <p>It was agreed that Kris Krasnowski of the Cities and Local Growth Unit would be invited as an Observer to the next Board meeting and that the relevant representative of NAO would also be invited to a Board meeting once their investigation had been completed.</p>	<p>LWH</p> <p>LWH</p>
2017/37	<p>SKILLS AREA REVIEW UPDATE</p> <p>The papers were taken as read and it was agreed that discussion of this item would be deferred until the next meeting.</p>	
2017/38	<p>GROWTH DEAL UPDATE</p> <p>Adrian Cannard presented the Growth Deal and SEP update and reported on progress as per the paper.</p>	

	<p>CLlr Count stated that Cambridgeshire and Peterborough local authority Chief Executives had received a presentation on progress with the refresh of the SEP and had raised concerns over whether the outcome would be fit for purpose. Adrian Cannard reported that a meeting had been arranged with the consultants undertaking the work to discuss those concerns, and in addition there was a workshop scheduled for the 16th May at which all local authorities would be present to discuss the emerging SEP vision and scenarios. The Board noted that a discussion on the emerging SEP was already programmed for the June Board meeting. The issues raised by Directors during the meeting would be discussed by the LEP Executive with local authority Chief Executives to ensure that they are addressed before a revised plan was prepared.</p>	AC
2017/39	<p>CAMBRIDGESHIRE AND PETERBOROUGH COMBINED AUTHORITY MEETINGS It was agreed that the Vice-Chair of the Board when appointed in due course would be the alternate LEP representative if and when the Chair is unable to attend Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority meetings.</p> <p>Mark Reeve confirmed that he would circulate details of the voting rights of the LEP delegate at these meetings.</p>	MR
2017/40	<p>APPROVAL OF MINUTES AND MATTERS ARISING The minutes of the meeting held on 7th March 2017 were approved and the various matters arising were noted as having been actioned or were in progress.</p>	
2017/41	<p>ANY OTHER BUSINESS</p> <p>1. <u>Wisbech Rail Reconnection</u> The Board considered an item regarding Wisbech Rail Reconnection as an urgency item under AOB. The item was added to the agenda given a pressing deadline for the submission of a bid for Garden Town feasibility funding.</p> <p>Adrian Cannard reported that the Board had previously funded feasibility work into the Wisbech rail connection. This had taken it to Network Rail’s “GRIP stage 2” of feasibility. Subsequently, Network Rail had raised concerns over assumptions regarding the reuse of Level Crossings on the route, suggesting their base position was closure of all the Level Crossings. Further work had been undertaken with Network Rail looking at options for each Level Crossing. Following this Cambridgeshire County Council had revised the business case, which was considered by the Local Transport Panel. £3.6m was being sought for the GRIP3 and further business case</p>	

development. The panel had recommended that further clarity was required before it could provide advice to the Board.

John Bridge as Chairman of the Panel confirmed that the Local Transport Panel had identified a number of critical areas that needed answers, such as the prospect of funding the capital cost. He also highlighted the lack of an operator and potential operating losses.

It was noted that under our revised Assurance Framework the proposal should be signed off by the Section 151 Officer as a value for money proposition prior to any Board decision, clarity would be required on the capital and revenue implications.

Cllr Count and Graham Hughes presented a case for the Board to consider the proposal at the meeting, and referred to correspondence issued the previous day as providing answers to the Local Transport Panel issues. Cllr Count recorded his concern that a full paper had not been submitted to the Board after discussion by the Local Transport Panel. Cllr Count stated that notwithstanding the assessment of the proposal the creation of the Wisbech Garden Town was inextricably linked with the provision of the rail connection. He stated that this investment was also directly linked to the LEP's mission to generate economic growth in its area.

John Bridge stated that the Panel had clearly indicated the proposal was not ready to be considered by the Board. Other Directors expressed concern that they were being asked to consider an investment decision under the urgency item that did not follow the process of the revised Assurance Framework.

At the request of the Board, Steven Bishop from Steer Davies Gleave, the LEP's independent consultant, summarised the '5 cases' assessment process that had fed into the conclusions of the Local Transport Panel. The relatively low value for money score of the scheme was such that it would be needed to be considered under the "compelling case" exceptions clause in the revised Assurance Framework.

The Board discussed the relationship between this request for feasibility funding of the rail scheme and a prospective bid from Fenland District Council for £2m of Garden Town feasibility funding from DCLG. Whilst a positive decision on the rail feasibility funding would strengthen that bid as

	<p>and when submitted, DCLG have confirmed that there is no current set deadline for the submission of funding bids.</p> <p>The Board formally noted their continued support for the Wisbech Garden Town initiative.</p> <p>As the provision of funding was not time critical and to take full account of the LEP's Governance processes and Assurance Framework, it was agreed that a full proposal would be submitted to the next appropriate Board meeting after collation of all information and provision of advice by the Local Transport Panel, including that any criteria for a compelling case for the investment had been satisfied.</p> <p>Appropriate time would be allocated at the relevant Board meeting for review of the proposed investment.</p> <p>2. <u>Directors' Terms of Office</u> Michael Tolond reported that the initial three-year term of office of Claire Higgins had expired and that of Mark Read would expire by the next meeting. Approval of the Board for their re-election would be sought by circulation to the Board.</p>	<p>AC</p> <p>MR</p> <p>MR/MT</p>
2017/42	<p>DATE OF NEXT MEETING The date of the next meeting was fixed for Tuesday 6th June 2017 at 3pm at Alconbury Weald Enterprise Campus.</p>	