



LEP Chairs Meeting

**Minutes from the meeting held on
30th April 2012 from 10.00 until 12.00pm
Held at the Business Centre, Histon**

Attendees

Neville Reyner, GCGP (NR)
John Gourd, Hertfordshire (JG)
Dr Ann Limb, SEMLEP (AL)
Paul Southworth, Northamptonshire (PS)
Susan Priest, South East LEP (SP)
Neil Darwin, GCGP (ND)
Chris Starkie, New Anglia (CS)
Neil Hayes, Hertfordshire (NH)

Apologies

Dr Andy Wood, New Anglia

1.	Welcome and Introductions NR welcomed attendees to the first LEP Chairs Meeting. Each LEP represented then provided an update on their composition, approach and focus today. The group discussed matters around the Growing Places Fund and the issue of 'Interest' on approved projects. The group agreed to share notes in order to establish a collective way forward.	All
2.	EU Funding Structures The group debated issues relating to the EU. It was agreed that a dual approach is needed, firstly around influencing funding streams and, secondly, around collating details of major projects that may be well-placed to benefit from European support eg A14. The group agreed that a Working Group should be set up to discuss European matters. It was agreed that the objective for the Working Group would be: 'to maximise receipts and influence in Europe by collectively working through our LEPs'. PS offered to bring a representative from the Northants Brussels office to provide an overview of their activities.	All GCGP to call meeting



<p>3.</p>	<p>UKTI Performance</p> <p>All attendees agreed that Inward Investment activities through UKTI had diminished over recent months. It was agreed that the group should write a letter to an appropriate contact detailing our experiences based around our existing MOU's</p> <p>NR/ND agreed to draft the letter, seeking evidenced contributions from others.</p>	<p>ND</p>
<p>4.</p>	<p>Growing Places Fund</p> <p>In addition to sharing notes of the Interest issue, we agreed to compare notes around other operational issues, such as profiling of finances.</p>	<p>All</p>
<p>5.</p>	<p>Core Funding for LEPs</p> <p>It was agreed that while the potential £250k discussed at the LEP network event that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) it is still superficial; b) it needs to arrive in timely fashion and without bureaucratic interference; and c) it should not be to the detriment of future LEP contributions. <p>JL agreed to share his recent letter to the Deputy Prime Minister.</p> <p>NR agreed to talk to David Frost at the LEP network about their input.</p> <p>The group agreed to maintain contact on the issue.</p>	<p>JL</p> <p>NR</p> <p>All</p>
<p>6.</p>	<p>Major Transport Scheme Devolution</p> <p>SP confirmed that John Spence had written to the Minister for Transport, Mike Penny MP, regarding congestion around the Dartford Crossing.</p> <p>The group agreed to share local views of Local Transport Boards. The group also recognised the potential to link up on Pinchpoint allocations in August. We agreed to share local responses at the earliest opportunity.</p>	<p>All</p>
<p>7.</p>	<p>Joint Lobbying</p> <p>It was agreed that we would review input into the All Party group on EZ/LEPs and review City deals for non-City areas.</p>	<p>All</p>
<p>8.</p>	<p>AOB</p> <p>JL raised the Armed Forces Covenant and stated that Hertfordshire were preparing a national toolkit to support employment. Further information to follow in due course.</p>	
<p>9.</p>	<p>Date of Next Meeting</p> <p>The date of the next meeting will be held on 2 July at 1.00pm at the</p>	



Greater Cambridge
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GCGP LEP Board Meeting - Item 4

Business Centre, Histon.

Future Meeting Dates:

3rd meeting:

Date: 2nd July 2012, 13.00 - 15.00

4th meeting:

Date: 15th November 2012, 13.00 - 15.00