

**Swindon and Wiltshire Local Enterprise Partnership**

**Introduction**

The Commissioning Group met on 18 May 2015 and considered the following items:

- Local Growth Fund 2015/16 projects
- Local Growth Fund 2016/17 projects
- Strategic Economic Plan Refresh

JSEC Members are asked to provide comment on the information outlined below.

**Local Growth Fund 2015/16 Projects (LGF)**

Both Unitary Authorities presented highlight reports on the five projects due to commence in 2015/16. The Commissioning Group noted the scheme progress and requested a number of changes to be made to future reporting including the inclusion of the City Deal project, that Eastern Villages be disaggregated to individual scheme level, that the named Project Manager for all projects, the LGF contribution and assurance from Secretariat that RAG status is being consistently applied across all projects/authorities.

The summary report is noted below:

<b>2015/16 Programme Summary</b>					
<b>Project Ref</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Lead Delivery Partner</b>	<b>Previous</b>	<b>Current</b>	<b>Notes</b>
LGF/1516/001/LTB350	LTB A350 Improvements	Wiltshire Council	AR	G	FBC approval granted at LTB 1 <sup>st</sup> May 2015
LGF/1516/002/A429	A429 Malmesbury	Wiltshire Council	AG	AG	
LGF/1516/003/EV	New Eastern Villages	Swindon Borough Council	AR	AR	Finance gap identified for funding Greenbridge Roundabout
LGF/1516/004/PSP	Porton Science Park	Wiltshire Council	AG	AG	Developing ESIF bid
LGF/1516/005/LSTF	LSTF Swindon	Swindon Borough Council	G	G	Project on track

**Local Growth Fund 2016/17 Projects (LGF)**

Highlight reports for six projects due to commence in 2016/17 were also presented by both Unitary Authorities. Commissioning Group Members agreed that future meetings should

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review one scheme in detail at each meeting. The first project to undergo detailed scrutiny was agreed as Chippenham Station Hub on 1 July 2015 and the second being Junction 15 on 26 August 2015. Members further requested that the three projects due to commence beyond 2016/17 be added to this reporting schedule, ie, Digital Corsham, Swindon Bus Exchange and West Ashton/Yarnbrook.

The summary report is noted below:

2016/17 Programme – Business Case Status Update					
Project Ref	Project Name	Lead Delivery Partner	Previous	Current	Notes
LGF/1617/001/A350	A350 Dualling Bypass	Wiltshire Council	AR	AR	No change since previous highlight report.
LGF/1617/002/WI	Wichelstowe Infrastructure	Swindon Borough Council	G	G	DfT Retained Scheme. Development of OBC to commence in 2016.
LGF/1617/003/SRT	Swindon Rapid Transit	Swindon Borough Council	G	G	Funding re-profiled to benefit another scheme, no issues have arisen for this scheme.
LGF/1617/004/CSH	Chippenham Station Hub	Wiltshire Council	AR	AR	DfT have retained the scheme. An appraisal specification to be developed prior to further development work being undertaken.
LGF/1617/005/LTB15	LTB M4 Junction 15	Swindon Borough Council	AG	AG	Revision of business case required due to cost estimate rising. Housing & Growth Fund proposal still being considered.
LGF/1617/006/LTB16	LTB M4 Junction 16	Swindon Borough Council	G	AR	Full Business Case postponed to autumn.

**Strategic Economic Plan Refresh**

The SWLEP Board has agreed a light touch refresh of its Strategic Economic Plan (SEP) and following a review by the SWLEP Secretariat, a Working Party, Chaired by Nicky Alberry

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(SWLEP Vice Chair) met late March 2015 to outline a programme of work to ensure that a draft refreshed document will be presented to the SWLEP Board for approval ahead of any potential call by Government for Local Growth Fund 3 bids. The aim is to supplement the vision document with an Investment Plan of prioritised projects that if funded, would ensure the key deliverables would be achieved.

It was recognised by the SWLEP Board that the refreshed document needed to ensure a greater business voice was built into any proposals. Key gaps within the SEP are transport, particularly rail, with a need to expand priorities on stations and lines. It was also noted that a strong focus on skills capital projects was required in addition to housing and construction.

### Current activity

A series of working groups have formed and met with a wider audience to drive progress in strategic areas. A brief update is noted below:

Strategic Area	Lead	Progress
Skills	Amanda Burnside	Skills Subgroup producing a single SWLEP wide skills strategy that will build on work of 3 FE colleges re funding bids. Potential exists for multiple bids.
Digital	Jeremy Sanders	Corsham Institute working with founding partners articulating vision to be supported by ongoing work throughout.
HVM	Adrian Griffiths	HVM Core Group seeking to capitalise on IfM report to secure future of 4 identified Innovation Centres.
Tourism and Culture	Peter Wragg	Cross SWLEP group formed to build on 2 key projects submitted to Heritage Lottery Fund. Bigger vision piece to be included.
Health and Life Sciences	Karl Simpson	Following on from HLS Cluster report, finalising SWLEP wide vision and plan.
Transport	Tbc	Building on SWLEP Transport Vision (T2026) a number of potential bids will be prioritised but recognition that the SWLEP must enhance its rail capability.

### Summary

JSEC Members are invited to comment on Commissioning Group report.

Barry Dennington, Chair SWLEP and Commissioning Group  
Nicky Alberry, Vice Chair SWLEP  
Isobel Brown, SWLEP Director