

Attendees	<p>Board: Colonel Toby Bridge (TB) / Amanda Burnside (AB) / Shahina Johnson (SJ) / John Mortimer (JM) / Vic O'Brien (VO) / David Renard (DR) / Adam Schallamach (AS) / Baroness Scott of Bybrook OBE (JS) / Peter Wragg (PW)</p> <p>Advisors: Dr Carlton Brand (CB) / John Gilbert (JG)</p> <p>Observers: Fleur de Rhé-Philippe (FdRP) / Garry Perkins (GP)</p> <p>Secretariat: Paddy Bradley (PB) / Alistair Cunningham (AC)</p> <p>Others: Leanne Sykes (LS) / Allan Creedy (ACr) / Richard Walters (RW) / Ian Durston (ID) / Debby Skellern (DS) / Colette Mallon (CM)</p> <p>Guests : Sally Edgington, BIS / Faith Graham (FG), RedBox Research / Marc Bayliss (MB), Redbox Research / Jason Humm, SBC / Martin Revill, JMP</p>
Apologies	George Gill (GG) / Simon Patten (SP) / Marc Richard (MR)
Chair	Barry Dennington (BD)
Minutes	Kieran Elliott (KE)
Venue	Lacock Suite, Lackham House, Wiltshire College Lackham, SN15 2NY
Start time	9.30am
Finish time	1.10pm

Item	Summary of Issues Discussed and Decisions – Part I	Deadline
11	Welcome and Introductions, Conflicts of Interest	
	<p>The Chairman welcomed all those present to the meeting.</p> <p>During the meeting AB declared a general interest due to potential involvement in items where Wiltshire College might receive funding.</p>	
12	Board Minutes, Action Log, Chairman Update	
	<p>The minutes of the meeting held on 16 March 2016 were presented for consideration and it was,</p> <p>Resolved:</p> <p>To APPROVE and sign the minutes as a true and correct record.</p> <p>The Board considered the Action Log of Board activities up to 29 April 2016. Details were sought on occupancy of Innovation centres across different areas, the latest developments regarding Junction 17, where after a meeting with developers the project was expected to move into the green once Highways England accepted the latest cost estimations, and it was reported in respect of the Castledown project monies would be drawn down this financial year.</p> <p>The Chairman also provided an update on his latest activities.</p>	
13	Submitted Questions	
	Four questions were received from Mrs Charmian Spickernell Campaign for	

	<p>the Protection of Rural England North Wilts and Swindon Group Committee Member regarding Junction 16 and Witchelstowe, with written responses provided with the agenda and at the meeting to Mrs Spickernell and Councillor Mollie Groom, Wiltshire Councillor.</p> <p>Councillor Groom and Mrs Spickernell stated there was concern at the level of consultation that had been undertaken in respect of the Junction developments, and it was agreed a further written response would be provided on that point.</p>	
14	Papers for Approval	
	<p><u>Finance Report</u> A Finance report for the Board covering the period 1 April 2015 to 31 March 2016 and the proposed budget for 2016/17 was presented. A total balance of £0.263m was to be rolled forward for the General Revenue Account, and in respect of the 2015/16 Growing Places Capital monies, the position was based on accruals as grant schemes were still being finalised.</p> <p>The 2016/17 budget of £14.715m was discussed, and it was requested that there be a funding re-profile between M4 Junction 16 from Rapid Transport of £3.12m, and this would be paid back during financial year 19/20.</p> <p><u>Resolved:</u></p> <p>To approve the budget and re-profiling as detailed in the agenda papers.</p> <p><u>Local Economic Assessment</u> A report and presentation was received from Red Box Research, who had been assessing the evidence base underpinning the investment priorities of the SWLEP. Where possible the information for Swindon and Wiltshire had been disaggregated, and four similar LEP areas had been chosen for benchmark assessments, as detailed in the report.</p> <p>The research had looked at Gross Value Added across the last 10 years and in specific sectors identified particularly as key priorities, across the two authorities. It was stated the SWLEP was a strongly performing LEP by most metrics, although the separate local authority areas had divergent performances regarding productivity, growth in small and medium enterprises and enterprise survival rates. Attempts had been made to measure innovation, looking at numbers of patents issued, research and expenditure and other measures.</p> <p>Draft forecasts had been provided on projected increases in jobs and wealth creation for specific sectors.</p> <p>The Board discussed the information. It was requested that the Secretariat prepares a report setting the local context for the economic assessment.</p>	

The Board discussed the rest of the report, including details on productivity levels in particular in rural areas, employment levels across the local authority areas, the highly targeted nature of worklessness in the SWLEP area with 10 Divisions and wards responsible for 20% of the worklessness in the area. The level of skills was examined, particularly graduate skills, and the challenges to provide more vocational training along with competitiveness across the region and how to maximise inward investment.

At the conclusion of debate, it was,

Resolved:

To note the report, and request a contextual summary be provided to the Board to set the economic assessment alongside the picture of the local area.

June
2016

Governance Update

PB provided an update on composition and lead officers for the Subgroups of the SWLEP, leading on aspects of the Strategic Economic Plan, with the intention of a split of lead officers between Swindon, Wiltshire and the SWLEP Secretariat and two Board members per Subgroup, as well as encouraging engaging with businesses directly with the Subgroups.

Board Members discussed the proposed structure, raising issues such as making the engagement with MPs and central government a key part of the governance arrangements and having Board input in those communications. The future roles of the Joint Strategic Economic Committee and Scrutiny Task Group were also discussed, and how these could develop in the future. (asked to insert link to scrutiny report in minutes)

Resolved:

The Board agreed to the implementation of the governance structure.

A350 Bypass

A paper was presented as detailed at 5.7 in the agenda, seeking Board approval of the outline Business Case for the A350 Chippenham Bypass Improvements, and approval of an option for progression to a full Business Case.

The Board was happy with the outline business case, recognising that the funding situation meant only parts of the A350 could be improved at this stage, and supported the recommendations of officers.

Resolved:

	<p>That the Board:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approves the ‘A350 Chippenham Bypass Improvements (Badger-Brook & Chequers)’ Outline Business Case. • Approves Option C (dualling the Badger to Brook gap and Chequers Roundabout including works to the A4) for progression to a Full Business Case. <p>Reason for Proposal(s) To ensure that the ‘A350 Chippenham Bypass Improvements (Badger-Brook & Chequers)’ Outline Business Case can be progressed in accordance with the Swindon and Wiltshire Local Enterprise Partnership’s Assurance Framework.</p> <p><u>M4 Junction 16</u> The Board considered the full business case for the M4 Junction 16 improvements, requiring a £5.92m contribution from the LGF allocation.</p> <p>The Board was informed that some quotes were still required for aspects of the process, though it was felt estimates were in line with the Board’s wishes. Nevertheless, the Board felt provisional approval only should be given subject to the s.151 officers of each local authority being satisfied with the tenders when they were received.</p> <p>It was also confirmed that in accordance with the assurance framework if the case did not proceed, any money allocated would be returned for reallocation.</p> <p><u>Resolved</u></p> <p>That the Swindon and Wiltshire Local Enterprise Partnership Board :</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Approves the M4 Junction 16 Full Business Case. Approves £5.92 million contribution to the M4 Junction 16 as part of the Local Growth Fund Allocation. <p>Subject to approval from the section 151 officers of Swindon Borough Council and Wiltshire Council.</p> <p>Reason for Proposal To ensure that the M4 Junction 16 scheme improvements can be progressed and delivered to the programme set out within the Full Business Case.</p>	
15	Papers for Discussion	
	The Board received an update on Project Prioritisation for the Local Growth Fund, in particular regarding the third round of Local Growth Deal funding. No specific application process had been detailed, though the SWLEP would	

	<p>need to face a challenge with Ministers in late June or July ahead of a full application.</p> <p>The Board was asked to consider which major projects could be taken forward, and the narrative to accompany any application.</p> <p>The Board discussed the approach and which projects were available and suitable for the criteria that had been provided. It was agreed a strategy would need to be approved by the Board quickly, and after debate it was,</p> <p><u>Resolved:</u></p> <p>That the Board holds a workshop to determine its position in respect of applying for the latest round of Local Growth Deal funding.</p>	May / June 2016
16	Papers for Information	
	The Board noted the receipt of the papers from the Commissioning Group and Marketing and Communications as detailed in the agenda papers.	
17	Any Other Business and Date of Next Board Meeting	
	The next ordinary meeting was scheduled for 13 July 2016.	