

Business Leadership Group – Minutes

Thursday 10 September 2015

Present

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| Nick Ames (NA) (Chair) | - | Supacat |
| Ben Rhodes (BR) | - | Business Forum |
| Chris Evans (CE) | - | Exeter University |
| Dan Newman (DN) | - | Torbay Development Agency |
| Steve Turner (ST) | - | Devon County Council |
| Adrian Dawson (AD) | - | Plymouth University |
| Noel Stevens (NS) | - | Alder King |
| Simon Barker (SB) | - | Agusta Westland |
| Brendon Noble (BN) | - | University of St Mark and St John |
| Amanda Ratsey (AR) | - | Plymouth City Council |
| Chris Garcia (CGa) | - | HotSW LEP |
| Nina Sarlaka (NS) | - | Plymouth and Devon Chamber of Commerce |

Supporting Officers

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| Adam Hickman (AH) | - | Plymouth City Council |
| Julia Blaschke (JB) | - | Plymouth City Council |
| Heidi Hallam (HH) | - | HotSW LEP |

Presenters

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| Anna Peachey (AP) | - | Plymouth City Council |
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Apologies

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| Paul Hickson | - | Somerset County Council |
| Heather Ancient | - | PwC |
| Peter Hartland | - | Plymouth and Devon Chamber of Commerce |

| | Agenda item | Lead |
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| 1 | <p>Welcome, introductions and apologies</p> <p>NA introduced the meeting and gave apologies as listed above.</p> | |
| 2 | <p>Conflicts of Interest</p> <p>Enterprise Zone – Noel Stevens. Growth Deal 3 (iAero Centre, Yeovil) – Simon Barker. Unlocking Growth Fund – Dan Newman. Growth Hub – Ben Rhodes, Dan Newman, Steve Turner, Adrian Dawson.</p> | |
| 3 | <p>Minutes of last meeting and matters arising</p> <p><u>Minutes of last meeting</u></p> <p>Item 2 (Declarations of Interest) - Ben Rhodes declared an interest for item 4 (Growth Hub). Item 6 (Enterprise Zone) – paragraph 3 – the term should be ‘crowding in’, not ‘overcrowding.’</p> <p><u>Matters arising</u></p> <p>Action: Check if the NFU can be the on-going venue for Business Group meetings.</p> <p>PhD Research student – likely to focus on the SIP and not the Business Group.</p> | AH |

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| 4 | <p>Growth Deal 3 – Adam Hickman</p> <p>AH talked through the GD3 briefing paper. Ten sites from across HotSW have submitted a project outline for GD3 funding. The total ask from these is approx £23m.</p> <p>CGa explained that these will not be as much funding as previous Growth Deals. It is envisaged that GD3 will be ‘money without memory.’</p> <p>The Business Group discussed matching its criteria for awarding funding to the Government’s agenda, i.e. productivity, performance of SMEs, skills, exporting.</p> <p>Action: Extra assessment for business projects criteria to be <u>productivity</u>.</p> <p>Note: Noel Stevens can, if required, review the ‘demand’ assessment criteria for Business GD3 projects.</p> <p>Action: <u>Deliverability</u> to be a assessment criteria for all projects (not just business). CGa to discuss with LEP Mgmt Team.</p> <p>Action: NA requested an update on the spatial mapping being undertaken by the Place Group.</p> <p>Action: Instigate a future joint Business and People Leadership Group meeting.</p> | <p>AR</p> <p>NS</p> <p>CGa</p> <p>PH</p> <p>AH</p> |
| 5 | <p>Mapping and Simplification Study – Anna Peachey</p> <p>It is a requirement of the contract between HotSW LEP and BIS for the delivery of the Growth Hub that business support schemes will be reviewed and rationalised. This study will therefore look at:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Mapping of available support. Analysis of gaps and duplication. Co-ordination mechanisms. Recommendations and actions. <p>The following will be mapped – publically funded bodies, universities, private sector organisations such as Chambers of Commerce, non for profit organisations. To date, over 100 organisations have been identified as delivering business support and a further 100+ networking opportunities.</p> <p>Future timeframes were discussed with the group, such as completing the mapping (Sept) and publishing the finding and implementation plan (March 2016).</p> <p><u>Questions/Discussion</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> There was concern that the study is not looking at private sector provision. <p>Action: AP to map private sector provision in strategic business support areas and review how the public sector provision provides additionality to any private sector provision.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> There was a discussion on the definition of ‘gaps’ in business support. This could be: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Demand from businesses on the basis of enquiries. Strategic issues for the LEP area. <p>Action: AP to ensure both definitions above are included when mapping business support gaps.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Action: Circulate the survey questions to the Business Group for comment. | <p>AP</p> <p>AP</p> <p>AP</p> |

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| 6 | <p>LEP Programme Management Update – Chris Garcia</p> <p><u>Growth Deal</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Possible GD1 spend slippage. May need to look at progressing/early start for GD2 projects. • GD2 – still waiting for CSR to confirm available GD2 funding. <p><u>EU Calls</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The current ‘live’ EU calls include: Hinkley supply chain; Growth Hub brokerage, MAS, UKTI, Smart Specialisation (photovoltaics and low energy). • Future calls: Tourism (Sept); EAFRD. <p><u>Enterprise Zones (EZ)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Five proposals were received for Enterprise Zones. A recommendation is going to the LEP Board to link two/three of these proposals into one HotSW bid. BIS are expecting approx 70 EZ bids, of which approx one third are expected to be supported. | |
| 7 | <p>MAS EU Project – Deferred</p> <p>There was a request from DCLG to look at Enhanced Business Growth Service. This agenda item will be carried forward.</p> | AH |
| 8 | <p>Business Conference – Heidi Hallam</p> <p>Note: Business Group approved £3,000 from the BIS budget to undertake some research on the day, by using hand held voting devices.</p> | |
| 9 | <p>Briefing papers (for questions)</p> <p>None.</p> | |
| 10 | <p>Future Agenda Items – All</p> <p>The following were agreed:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Proposals and shaping EU Calls. Identify key themes / priorities for the Business Group over the next 12 months. Feedback from HotSW annual review, with input on productivity from universities. | AH |
| 11 | <p>Any other business</p> <p>None.</p> | |
| | <p>Date of Next Meeting:</p> <p>Monday 16 November; 09.30 – 11.30; NFU, Agricultural House, Pynes Hill, Rydon Lane, Exeter, EX2 5ST</p> | |