

Business Leadership Group – Minutes

Thursday 12 May 2016

Present

Nick Ames (NA) (Chair)	-	LEP Board (Supacat)
Ben Rhodes (BR)	-	Business Body Representative (DCBC)
Rebekah Davies (RD)	-	Upper Tier Local Authority (TDA)
Simon Barker (SB)	-	Business Representative/Inward Investment (Finmeccanica UK)
Noel Stevens (NS)	-	ESIF Committee representative (Alder King)
Amanda Ratsey (AR)	-	Theme Lead/Upper Tier Local Authority (PCC)
Chris Evans (CE)	-	R&D and Innovation (University of Exeter)
Sue Wilkinson (SW)	-	Business Body Representative (FSB)
Martha Wilkinson (MW)	-	Social Enterprise (Devon Community Foundation)
George Cowcher (GC)	-	Business Body Representative (representing all HotSW LEP Chambers)

Supporting Officers

Chris Garcia (CG)	-	Chief Exec, HotSW LEP
Julia Blaschke (JB)	-	Plymouth City Council
Heidi Hallam (HH)	-	HotSW LEP Partnerships Manager

Presenters

Julia Stuckey (JS)	-	HotSW LEP Inward Investment Manager
Emma Buckman (EB)	-	HotSW LEP Interim Strategy Manager
Anna Peachey (AP)	-	Plymouth City Council
David Hynd (DH)	-	HotSW Growth Hub Programme Manager
Colin Bettison (CB)	-	Plymouth City Council

Apologies

Brendon Noble (BN)	-	R&D and Innovation (University of St Mark and St John)
Paul Hickson (PH)	-	Upper Tier Local Authority (SCC)
Adrian Dawson (AD)	-	R&D and Innovation (Plymouth University)
Heather Ancient (HA)	-	Business Representative (PwC)
Steve Turner (ST)	-	Upper Tier Local Authority (DCC)

	Agenda item	Lead
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>SB and AR stated an interest in GD 3 projects</p>	
3	<p>Minutes of last meeting and matters arising</p> <p><u>Minutes</u> – accepted. SB suggested adding member's roles in future minutes for clarification.</p>	

	<p><u>Matters Arising</u></p> <p>ACTION - BLG meetings to either be at the beginning (9.30am or 10.00 start) or end (3pm start) of the day (ongoing).</p>	<i>Julia Blaschke</i>
4	<p>Growth Hub update – David Hynd & Colin Bettison</p> <p>DH explained that the aim of his presentation was to share an update of work done so far and to receive feedback and suggestions from members regarding the Growth Hub. Presentation is attached. Following this a discussion between members ensued:</p> <p>HH feedback so far has been very positive – good working relationship with GH provider CB – what does the group want to see in their monthly report? CG – could members of BLG inform GH/group of any services that might be of interest for businesses who access GH? AR reminded group that managing performance of GH was responsibility of group SB service might have to shift over time to be able to continually provide what business community wants/needs. MW – publish details on SEs as well</p> <p>ACTION</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - circulate presentation and report and CB contact details - add standing agenda item for Growth Hub - please forward to CB any requests for data to be included in dashboard and any other information GH should report - advertise presence of networks so that businesses know about this way to contact/comment 	<p><i>Julia Blaschke</i> <i>Julia Blaschke</i> <i>All</i> <i>All</i></p>
5	<p>Mapping Study– Emma Buckman, Anna Peachey</p> <p>The report was presented to group and EB gave overview over production process of report. The report looks at existing business support, nationally and locally, best practice, what worked and what didn't.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Questions were raised whether it would be possible to drill down into more local datasets. EB: Because the report is partially building on national reports this was not always possible. • Some of the support described in the report seems to be very geographically fragmented with delivery commissioned for a single district. Could economies of scale be found by combining commissioning? • It was highlighted that the report forms a very useful background document which could be used to inform the design of future funding calls in HotSW LEP. Also, future applicants might benefit from incorporating the findings of the report into their bids. • The role of the Growth Hub in taking this forward was discussed. <p>ACTION Circulate mapping study</p>	<i>Julia Blaschke</i>

6	<p>Inward Investment – Julia Stuckey</p> <p>JS gave overview over presentation. Following this, members discussed Inward Investment in HotSW.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Key point for success of Inward Investment will be to articulate the opportunities in HotSW LEP – what is the offer from HotSW LEP to businesses across the world? Which opportunities can UKTI market around the world? • There is a potential danger of having fewer opportunities to showcase our area if we cannot demonstrate that we are able to attract Inward Investment/FDI landings. • CE questioned whether results from science and Innovation audit could be used to inform our offer to foreign businesses. • GC stated that Devon Chamber has just launched Devon Inward Investment forum – GC invited members to use the forum. <p>ACTION</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Circulate Inward Investment report • All: Please contact JS if you are able to support JS with this 	<p><i>Julia Blaschke</i> <i>All</i></p>
7	<p>Business life cycle and property demands – Noel Stevens</p> <p>NS gave presentation (attached). He explained that a business' information and property requirements are changing over the lifecycle of a business, from start-ups to mature businesses. NS pointed out that with regards to start-up space, there are conflicting priorities between start-ups (who need flexibility) and landlords (who want security). As such, (publicly funded) incubation space is needed because it can bridge the gap. Further, NS explained that there is a more general structural market failure in the South West and more needs to be done to support developers with enabling costs to close the gap between market prices and development costs that is hindering new developments.</p>	
8	<p>Devolution – Chris Garcia</p> <p>CG gave a verbal update on devolution process up to date. Following this a discussion ensued.</p> <p>ACTION</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Circulate business theme to group – for group only! CONFIDENTIAL • All: provide comments on draft 	<p><i>Julia Blaschke</i> <i>All</i></p>
9	<p>LEP Stakeholder engagement activities / Business conference 2016 – Heidi Hallam</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HH gave overview about upcoming Business conference 2016. The conference will be held on 03.10.16. Venues are currently being explored. • Draft agenda includes break-out sessions led-by leadership groups <p>ACTION</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Suggest topics for break out-session 	<p><i>All</i></p>

Local Enterprise Partnership

Creating opportunities in Devon, Plymouth, Somerset and Torbay

10	<p>Agenda for joint meeting</p> <p>The group discussed potential agenda points for the joint meeting with the People Leadership Group.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MW offered to do an update on Social Enterprises in HotSW LEP • Further topics included: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ apprentices ○ work experience ○ HP training agency ○ Graduate retention ○ Digital skills/utilisation ○ Skills/training for life <p>ACTION</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Circulate agenda points to People Leadership Group for discussion 	<p><i>Julia Blaschke</i></p>
11	<p>Any Other Business</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Venturefest will be held end October. <p>ACTION</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CE to circulate draft for Venturefest 	<p><i>Chris Evans</i></p>
	<p>Date of Next Meeting:</p> <p><i>Friday, 08 July, tbc (joint meeting between People and Business Leadership Groups)</i></p>	<p><i>Julia Blaschke</i></p>