

Business Leadership Group meeting – Minutes

Monday 12 September 2016

Present

Nick Ames (NA)	-	LEP Board (SC Group)
Simon Barker (SB)	-	Business Representative/Inward Investment (Leonardo Helicopters)
George Cowcher (GC)	-	Business Body Representative (representing all HotSW LEP Chambers)
Brendon Noble (BN)	-	R&D and Innovation (University of St Mark and St John)
Sophie Francis (SF)	-	Upper Tier Local Authority (DCC)
Martha Wilkinson (MW)	-	Social Enterprise (Devon Community Foundation)
Carl Wyard (CW)	-	Upper Tier Local Authority (TDA)
Ben Rhodes (BR)	-	Business Body Representative (DCBC)
Julia Stuckey (JS)	-	HOTSW Inward Investment Manager

Supporting Officers

Julia Blaschke (JB)	-	Plymouth City Council
Stephen Humphreys (SH)	-	Plymouth City Council

Apologies

Noel Stevens (NS)	-	ESIF Committee representative (Alder King)
Heather Ancient (HA)	-	Business Representative (PwC)
Sue Wilkinson (SW)	-	Business Body Representative (FSB)
Amanda Ratsey (AR)	-	Theme Lead/Upper Tier Local Authority (PCC)
Adrian Dawson (AD)	-	R&D and Innovation (Plymouth University)
Chris Evans (CE)	-	R&D and Innovation (University of Exeter)
Paul Hickson (PH)	-	Upper Tier Local Authority (SCC)

	Agenda item	Lead
1	<p>Welcome, introductions and apologies</p> <p>NA introduced the meeting and gave apologies as listed above.</p>	
2	<p>Conflict of Interest</p> <p>BN declared membership of Social Enterprise Mark committee. SF, JS, CW are involved with ERDF bids.</p>	
3	<p>Minutes of last meeting and matters arising</p> <p>Minutes of the last meeting were agreed.</p> <p>ACTION</p> <p>- Matters arising: Spatial Mapping - JB to get update from PH Devolution – Awaiting government update on direction. Industrial strategy is now included, potential to look at GD3 bid in respect of this.</p>	<p><i>Julia Blaschke</i> <i>Chris Garcia</i></p>

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4	<p>SW MAS ERDF programme introduction</p> <p>Please see attached presentation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Since 2002 MAS has delivered 1448 business improvement projects with 3500 manufacturers supported. They provide funded workshops for SMEs. • Funding is proving to be less of a priority; business support is seen as a more critical area of support. • LMAP has provided grant support to 464 companies of which 352 based in the HoTSW LEP area. • This is the only source of advice and funding available to the manufacturing sector. 	
5	<p>Enterprise Europe Network – introduction</p> <p>Please see attached presentation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Free business support for businesses to grow internationally • Six advisors covering the SW • Funded by Innovate UK and EU until 2020 and work closely with DIT • Network with 60+ countries and around 600 organisations • Aim to support business and organisations to work collaboratively across the world <p>ACTION - EEN is relatively unknown in HotSW, there is an opportunity for an OLA with the Growth Hub to foster greater collaboration. JB to introduce partners.</p>	<i>Julia Blaschke</i>
6	<p>Social Enterprise</p> <p>Please see attached presentation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Social Enterprises have mostly the same requirements as non-Social Enterprises. SE's use of general business support could be improved by marketing the benefits of general business support to SEs. • SEs might sometimes use a different language than businesses in general. This might lead to misunderstandings and difficulties when trying to access business support and finance. 	
7	<p>Inward Investment Update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Current funding for Inward Investment support ends March 2017, decision on future LEP service and funding ongoing • Hinkley pipeline activity current being held up by outstanding decision • Joint LEP contract is being prepared to support SMEs accessing the Hinkley supply chain. Project will be progressed once positive decision is announced. • Marine – DIT leads visiting Plymouth 13/9/16 with Marine Tech Expo the following day • Aerospace – Farnborough show attended and imminent trade mission to Seattle. 	
8	<p>Brexit & ESIF update</p>	

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local events and groups are being organised Chancellor has given guarantee for ESIF funding that is being contracted (signed offer letter) before the Autumn Statement for the whole duration of the project even if that date is after UK has left the EU. 	
9	<p>Unlocking Growth Fund and GD 1 update</p> <p>SH provided an update on UGF with a second call for EOIs for the remaining £1m now in place JB updated the GD1 position ACTION - written Growth Hub update to follow.</p>	<i>Julia Blaschke</i>
11	<p>AOB</p> <p>ACTION - LEP conference, Business Leadership Group session: group members to send any thoughts for content topics by email</p>	<i>All</i>
	<p>Date of Next Meeting: 14 November, 15.00-17.00, Exeter Science Park</p>	<i>Julia Blaschke</i>