

Minutes of the Strategic Investment Panel

Tuesday 6th July 2017 09.30-12.30
Santander Offices, Pynes Hill, Exeter

SIP Members:

- Amanda Ratsey, Business Lead, LEP Management Team
- David Bird, Chair of the SIP
- Keri Denton, People Lead LEP Management Team
- Paul Hickson, Place Lead, LEP Management Team
- Stephen Criddle, Chair People Leadership Group, LEP Board Member

In attendance:

- Ed Cross, LEP PMO (Minutes)
- Eifion Jones, Head of Strategy & Operations
- Ian Harrison, Independent Transport Assessor
- Carl Wyard (on behalf of Alan Denby)
- Steve Murphy, SCC Accountable Body representative

1. Welcome and Apologies

Apologies from: Barbara Shaw, Chris Garcia, Mark King, Melanie Sealey, Richard Stevens, Sally Edgington

2. Declarations of Interest

- Carl Wyard: EPIC
- Keri Denton: Roundswell, Tiverton Urban Extension, Science Park and Mobile 4G
- Paul Hickson: SEIC and Mobile 4G
- Stephen Criddle: South Devon College

3. Minutes of the 6th June SIP

Agreed with no changes.

4. Investment Programme Business Cases and Project Changes

4.1. Growing Places Fund

No change

<p>4.2. Growth Deal</p> <p>4.2.1. Business Case Approval South Devon College</p> <p>KD outlined proposed plan and case for approval to SIP.</p> <p><u>Decision: SIP approved business case but agreed there was a need to produce a common template on which to base future decisions over similar projects.</u></p> <p><u>Action:</u> Send SIP comparison of Business and People Group template produced by JE.</p> <p>4.2.2. HPTA Revenue Funding Conditions</p> <p><u>Decision: SIP agreed to review at next meeting after taking a detailed look at the provided paper.</u></p> <p>4.2.3. Bridgewater College Variation</p> <p><u>Decision: The request for variation regarding the change in HE Centre location was approved by the SIP</u></p>	<p>MS</p> <p>MS</p> <p>JE/MS</p> <p>JE</p>
<p>4.3. Special Projects Fund</p> <p>No change</p>	
<p>5. <u>Investment Programme Delivery</u></p> <p>5.1. Investment Programme Report</p> <p><u>Action:</u> Look at moving completed projects into a separate block within the programme summary report.</p> <p><u>Action:</u> Amend report to include mention of the fact that one GD3 project has now had its business case approved.</p> <p>5.1.1. EPIC Centre Update</p> <p>EJ reported that the gross amount should have been shown after administration top slice had been deducted from the total. This has now been revised with the gross amount being reported.</p> <p>5.1.2. SEIC Update</p> <p><u>Decision: SIP agreed that the specific request for match funding from ERDF needed to ensure an audit trail.</u></p> <p>5.2. Amber Project Review</p> <p>All project statuses remained unchanged.</p> <p>5.2.1. New Stations Fund</p> <p>IH reported that there is no greater clarity from Government about the outcome of the funding bids. Both projects are still exploring</p>	<p>EC</p> <p>EC</p> <p>MS</p>

<p>potential Plan Bs – Torbay investigating a potential revenue share return model with clawback.</p> <p><u>Decision: SIP voiced concerns about both projects, especially the high degree of uncertainty on a date for the outcome of the new stations fund. SIP agreed to review again at next meeting keeping both projects as amber.</u></p> <p><u>Action:</u> Look at the spend profiles of both projects to see how any potential delay may impact on the projects cashflow, reporting findings at next SIP.</p>	<p>MS</p> <p>EC/MS</p>
<p>5.3. Update on Tiverton EUE, Roundswell and Food Enterprise Zone Projects</p> <p>1) IH outlined two potential options for meeting the funding needed for Tiverton East Urban Extension.</p> <p><u>Decision: The updates to Roundswell and Food Enterprise Zone were noted by SIP. SIP agreed to facilitate a meeting between Devon and Somerset County Councils to discuss options regarding Tiverton EUE. SIP also agreed that the proposed changes to the project pipeline management document should address how such cases are handled in future.</u></p> <p><u>Action:</u> Set up meeting between Devon and Somerset County Councils to discuss Tiverton EUE.</p>	
<p>5.4. Change management of project pipeline</p> <p>SIP mentioned the need to tighten the wording around unsuccessful bids for government funding, the document needing to specify which funds (e.g. LGF or GPF). SIP agreed that the LEP should be seeking to keep in reserve 12 months funding at a minimum.</p> <p>With regards to GD3 projects SIP agreed that if a project was not able to be approved the next project on the agreed prioritisation list would have the opportunity to invest the funds, rather than another project from the body who proposed the original project.</p> <p><u>Decision: SIP agreed to approve the proposed document subject to the above points being addressed.</u></p>	<p>CG</p>
<p>5.5. SCC Update</p> <p>No change</p>	
<p>6. Strategic Agenda Items</p> <p>6.1. Productivity Plan White Paper</p> <p>SIP agreed that the plan needs to recognise more the potential for retirees to still contribute to the economy through voluntary work or re-entry into the</p>	<p>SM</p>

jobs market. There is also a need to link the golden opportunities to the opportunities identified by the science and innovation audit, and there needs to be greater thought put into the measures used to monitor progress.

6.2. Ash Futures Study Update

Decision: SIP agreed that the document needed to be tailored so that it was more understandable to a wider audience.

6.3. ESIF Update

EJ updated SIP on the latest progress. Two calls are now live with the Devon transition area in ongoing discussions with DCLG on how the additional available funds may be used.

6.4. ESF Update

EJ confirmed that a verbal agreement has been reached allowing release of ESF funding. However, there is still no written agreement and the LEP is working with other partners in pressing DWP to invest these funds in the HotSW area. The issue is common across other LEP areas. In addition, DWP has not confirmed the expected outputs. Treasury will underwrite ESF and ERDF funding post BREXIT, so long as it is contracted before we leave the EU.

SIP noted that this is a DWP managed programme and that the LEP's role is limited to influencing how DWP may invest this.

7. AOB

IH updated on new announcements from Government. Specifically the fact that a new classification of the major road network might be beneficial to LEP funding applications for future road improvements post 2020. There also seems to be support for sub-national transport authorities such as Transport for the North in DFT. The LEP may need to consider this going forward to avoid being disadvantaged.

IH also updated on the latest information regarding the housing infrastructure fund and differences between the proposed marginal viability bids and forwarded funding bids.

8. Date of next meeting- 6th July 2017