

## LEP Endorsement Register (March 2018 J Powell)

Name of project	Name of person requesting endorsement	Date requested	Notes	Endorsement
Taunton Deane & West Somerset District Council Merger	Penny James CEO of Taunton Deane	Jan 2018	From DCLG – a period until 19 Jan 2018 to make further representation to Secretary of State for any modification to original proposal. Penny James requested a letter of support from the LEP, but we have been asked by all our authorities not to comment on democratic representation agendas impacting on any individual authority as we are not a democratic body as such nor a statutory body or consultee, but agreed to send a note to Sajid Javid to explain as above. Please do not infer from this that we don't support this proposal; simply that our legitimate interest is in LEP wide organisation rather than changes to local democratic arrangements.	Email explanation sent
Bristol Nucleate Project	Corinne Matthews for Prof David Knowles Director of SW Nuclear Hub	Jan 2018	<p>UOB have asked for a letter of support for their Nucleate project which is being submitted to WECA for one of their funding pots.</p> <p>One being provided from NSW - signed by Matt Burley, but given relationship with NSW, LEP to provide one, as well as GFirst.</p> <p>Corinne will be asking Jamie (who is writing the bid) to reference within the business plan the links that Nucleate will have with other innovation hubs – such as the SEIC.</p>	Letter of endorsement sent
Bridgwater & Taunton College Flexible Learning Fund	Matt Tudor Bridgwater College	Feb 2018	<p>Submission to Flexible Learning Fund for the Digital Engineer Academy, to be led by Birmingham Metropolitan College.</p> <p>Both the construction and digital technology sectors are considered growth areas within the Heart of the South West, already playing a crucial role within our shared economy. The synergies between the two sectors are also becoming increasingly important for the LEP, with projects like Hinkley Point</p>	Letter of endorsement sent

			demonstrating the need for strong digital competency and skills sets as part of wider engineering and civils occupations.	
Hinkley Point Training Agency Flexible Learning Fund	Neil England Operations Director	Feb 2018	Put together between EDF, the HPTA and Somerset Skills and Learning to deliver the catering and hospitality staff for HPC, focusing on those furthest from the labour market and training them up to access HPC jobs.	Letter of endorsement sent
South West Institute of Technology Bid (IoT)	Ben Neild University of Exeter	Feb 2018	Joint bid from partners within the Heart of the South West for the establishment of a new Institute of Technology within the area.	Letter of endorsement sent
Connecting Devon & Somerset	Sofie Francis Devon County Council	Feb 2018	CDS bid for RDPE Rural Broadband funds. The project will complement current broadband deployment programmes in the Heart of the South West LEP area and will contribute to our Strategic Economic Plan objective of 100% superfast broadband coverage by 2020. Our ESIF Strategy includes digital infrastructure as a priority investment area for both ERDF and EAFRD: this project will therefore be an essential element in reaching our ESIF Strategy objective of investing in digital infrastructure in rural areas, specifically targeting the hardest-to-reach areas.	Letter of endorsement sent