

LEP Endorsement Register (May 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	UOB have asked for a letter of support for their Nucleate project which is being submitted to WECA for one of their funding pots. One being provided from NSW - signed by Matt Burley, but given relationship with NSW, LEP to provide one, as well as GFirst. 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.	Letter of endorsement sent
Bridgwater & Taunton College Flexible Learning Fund	Matt Tudor Bridgwater College	Feb 2018	Submission to Flexible Learning Fund for the Digital Engineer Academy, to be led by Birmingham Metropolitan College. 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	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
Western Rail Link to Heathrow	Anna Holbrook, Network Rail	March 2018	WRLtH is a proposed new direct rail link from the West to Heathrow which will improve journeys from the South West to Britain's busiest airport.	Letter of endorsement sent
Industrial Strategy Wave 3 Fund	Photonics Leadership Group Daniel Newman – TDA	April 2018	EOI For "future of mobility" - multiple imaging, LIDAR and sensor technologies - wave 3. Inclusion for Wave 3; of the areas described in the submission, would also support increased productivity within the supply chains as well as the potential links with the IAero project based out of Yeovil and the South Coast Marine Cluster. Additionally, they would align with the	Letter of endorsement sent

			principles behind the investments that have been and are being made in Torbay; and other areas, to support the wider supply chains.	
Industrial Strategy Wave 3 Fund	NARMC	April 2018	EOI for Wave 3 - Competitive Supply Chains: Affordable Nuclear. The proposal submitted by NAMRC is proposing an ISCF challenge that supports the Nuclear Sector Deal based on the creation of new advanced nuclear capabilities, partnerships and information sharing that is focused on increasing UK productivity and manufacturing gains.	Letter of endorsement sent
Industrial Strategy Wave 3 Fund	Aerospace Partnership Growth	April 2018	EOI – The Brunel Challenge . As a Stakeholder of the public / private collaboration I Aero, we have been engaged in the development of the proposal and are fully committed to its success. Therefore, we fully support the Aerospace Growth Partnership (AGP) in recognising the importance of the aspirations of high value design inherent in the Brunel Challenge bid. The challenges identified within the bid, will play a key part in securing the long- term sustainability, and continued growth, of the aerospace and advanced engineering industry across the South West and indeed the UK.	Letter of endorsement sent
Wave 5 Coastal Communities Fund	Alan Denby Torbay Development Agency	April 2018	EOI for Torbay Council - The application strongly aligns with raising productivity and encouraging growth particularly within the tourism sector (a key sector in the South West) who rely on good visitor experiences. Investment in this sector will also increase economic growth and productivity in our developing Digital economy – one of the fastest growing sectors in our region.	Letter of endorsement sent
Wave 5 Coastal Communities Fund	Somerset and Northern Devon Paul Hickson SCC	April 2018	By specifically tailoring interventions to the needs and opportunities of coastal businesses and communities in Somerset and Northern Devon, the proposal also aligns with the Productivity Strategy’s cross-cutting themes of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ‘capitalizing on our distinctive assets’; and • ‘Inclusive growth for communities and places’. 	Letter of endorsement sent

			<p>We also note and welcome your plans to enter into an Operational Level Agreement (OLA) with the Heart of the South West Growth Hub in order to ensure a joined-up service for businesses in the LEP area.</p>	
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