

# 2023-24 Priorities & Workplan



heart of the  
south west  
local enterprise partnership

# 2023-24 Guiding Purpose

Bringing local business leaders, HE, FE & local government together to

- Deliver net zero & economic prosperity through clean and inclusive growth
- Support the area through recession



# 2023-24 LEP Priorities

Intelligence  
/ analysis

Leadership  
/convening

Support  
for place

1. Continuity: core proposition as required by Government
2. Clean growth, transformational opportunities & support for business
3. Growing Places Fund
4. Inclusive growth
5. Transition: enabling & supporting orderly evolution: GSW, devo etc

# Actions

## 1. Continuity: core proposition

	Objective	Key Result	Supporting/ enabling activity through 23/24
Strategic economic planning & evidence	<b>Support partners in development of place and champion economic growth in the area</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Quarterly: provide insightful &amp; timely economic intelligence via dashboards &amp; business bulletin</li><li>Summer: conduct broader impact assessment of LEP investments</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Ongoing: support progression of the area's town deals</li><li>By March 24: support publication of a draft transport strategy by Peninsula Transport</li><li>By Sep 23: support completion of outline business case for connecting to the West Somerset Railway (Taunton to Bishops Lydeard)</li><li>By Mar 24: support completion of outline business case for Cranbrook and Honiton passing loops</li></ul>
Embed a strong independent business voice	<b>Ensure strong private and public sector participation in the LEP</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>By end April 23: conduct Governance review to include Articles re independent Directors, deputy Chair, gender balance, context of programme boards, SAP, LSIPs etc</li></ul>	

# Actions

## 1. Continuity: core proposition

### Delivering functions on behalf of Govt:

	Objective	Key Result	Supporting/ enabling activity through 23/24
Growth Hub	<i>Maintain front door to business support</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>By end May: confirm funding options for post Sep operation</i></li></ul>	
Inward Investment	<b>Promote the area's key investment opportunities &amp; secure DBT support &amp; buy-in</b> (also see transformational opportunities)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• From April: launch sustainable inward investment service for Somerset</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Promote &amp; support High Potential Opportunities (photonics, marine, aerospace)</li></ul>
Local Growth Fund/ Getting Building Fund	<b>Ensure delivery of remaining LGF &amp; GBF projects</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• By end Aug: remaining funds committed (digital EOIs)</li><li>• By Mar 24: delivery of outputs and forward plan to March 2025</li></ul>	

# Actions

## 1. Continuity: core proposition

Delivering functions on behalf of Govt:

	Objective	Key Result	Supporting/ enabling activity through 23/24
Careers Hub & workforce development	<b>Enable strong business voice into workforce development</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>By end May: work with partners to develop future Careers Hub model for delivery &amp; funding</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Through 23/24: convene business voice, FE etc to support workforce development &amp; talent retention, including any transition SAP to LSIPs</li><li>Ensure delivery of legacy skills projects, e.g. digital skills</li></ul>

# Actions

## 2. Clean growth, transformational opportunities & support for business

	Objective	Key Result	Supporting/ enabling activity through 23/24
Aviation	<b>Promote the major area's major clean growth opportunities &amp; secure investment</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>By Mar 24: identify minimum of one Sustainable Aviation Test Area in Exeter and/or Yeovil and facilitate support for one project to progress towards certification from the CAA to test a UAS future flight technology</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Support Somerset Council to develop the iAero Centre in Yeovil as a thriving Centre of Excellence for VTOL / EVTOL and UAS innovation in the South West</li></ul>
Marine		<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>By Dec 23: secure Launchpad funding from Innovate UK and ensure effective delivery across the HotSW area</li><li>By Mar 24: Work with Plymouth partners to ensure the future of Smart Sound Connect and Subsurface projects is developed on a commercial footing</li></ul>	



# Actions

## 2. Clean growth, transformational opportunities & support for business

	Objective	Key Result	Supporting/ enabling activity through 23/24
Digital	<b>Promote the major area's major clean growth opportunities &amp; secure investment</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>By Oct 23: work with local authorities to establish a Community Triage Service across the HotSW area</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Support successful delivery of all projects funded through the Digital Investment Programme</li></ul>
Energy		<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>By March 2024: deliver a one year Nuclear SW Inward Investment Service supporting 70+ companies that are in the pipeline</li><li>By Mar 2024: agree FLOW objectives and ensure HotSW interests are fed into the plans and actions of The Crown Estate, Celtic Sea Cluster and individual developers</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Support the EDF Hinkley Point C Nuclear Legacy activity, including transitioning supply chain / skills / infrastructure assets and innovation into other growth sectors</li><li>Better understand and promote the HotSW hydrogen ecosystem, linking opportunities with commercial developers and collaborating across boundaries</li><li>Support the SW Net Zero Hub, both in its transition from an Energy Hub and effective project delivery across HotSW</li></ul>



# Actions

## 2. Clean growth, transformational opportunities & support for business

	Objective	Key Result	Supporting/ enabling activity through 23/24
Photonics	<b>Promote the major area's major clean growth opportunities &amp; secure investment</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>By Oct 23: secure funding to attend two overseas trade shows to support global trade and generate inward investment</li> <li>By Mar 24: support Torbay to secure funding for the Electronics and Photonics Production Park –</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Explore potential for larger regional grants to support R&amp;D</li> </ul>
Food, Farming & Natural Capital		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>By Oct 23: develop &amp; launch a Food Proposition with the Department for Business and Trade</li> <li>By Nov 23: launch the Public Sector Food Procurement Declaration, enable broader adoption and organise an Autumn Food Summit</li> <li><i>By Dec 23: ensure agreement(s) in place for investment of the £1m natural capital demonstration loan fund</i></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Maximise broader trade and inward investment opportunities in Agri-Tech</li> </ul>

# Actions

## 2. Clean growth, transformational opportunities & support for business

	Objective	Key Result	Supporting/ enabling activity through 23/24
Tourism	<b>Promote the major area's major clean growth opportunities &amp; secure investment</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• By Oct 23: support partners to review options for Local Visitor Economy Partnerships in the HotSW area</li><li>• By Dec 23: ensure the Tourism Data Hub is scoped and set up successfully and the data is shared across the sector</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Support partners to identify further funding opportunities to implement 'Towards 2030'</li></ul>
Other clean growth & transformational opportunities		<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Support delivery of Enterprise Zones &amp; Freeport (incl Freeport inward investment)</li><li>• Support Devon and Somerset to develop and deliver net zero / carbon / climate emergency plans</li></ul>	

# Actions

## 2. Clean growth, transformational opportunities & support for business

	Objective	Key Result	Supporting/ enabling activity through 23/24
Support for business	<b>Provide a universal service</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>By end May: confirm funding options for post Sep operation of the Growth Hub</li></ul>	
	<b>Leverage national support &amp; maximise access</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>By end June: establish a finance platform to support SME access to the British Business Bank SW Fund and other sources of finance &amp; advice</li></ul>	
	<b>Targeted business support to enable growth</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>By end May: launch a peer network programme to enable SMEs to learn from other successful SMEs</li><li>By end June: conduct a study into the potential for a HotSW-specific angel investor programme</li></ul>	

# Actions

## 3. Growing Places Fund

	Objective	Key Result	Supporting/ enabling activity through 23/24
Existing portfolio	<b>Growing Places Fund managed effectively and making a contribution to growing the area's economy</b>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Existing investments repayments made on time/ projects closed as required</li></ul>
Natural Capital		<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><i>By Dec 23: ensure agreement(s) in place for investment of the £1m natural capital demonstration loan fund</i></li></ul>	
Social Investment Fund		<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><i>By end June: complete scoping study for potential GPF social impact fund</i></li></ul>	

# Actions

## 4. Inclusive Growth

	Objective	Key Result	Supporting/ enabling activity through 23/24
Leveraging private sector	<b>Embed inclusive growth into wider work across the area</b>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Through 23/24: support LiveWest/ Exeter College programme &amp; examine potential for application to other private sector businesses/ sectors</li><li>• Support establishment of UoP-led South-West Coastal Local Policy Innovation Partnership (SWC-LPIP)</li></ul>
Social Investment Fund		<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>By end June: complete scoping study for potential GPF social impact fund</i></li></ul>	
Social Mobility Commission		<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Now delivered through Great SW</li></ul>	

...alongside activity in other areas e.g. Careers Hub

# Actions

## 5. Transition: enabling & supporting orderly evolution: GSW, devo etc

	Objective	Key Result
Operating model	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Evolve operating model to</b><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>– <b>support/ enable devolution transition</b></li><li>– <b>reflect emerging priorities of Great SW</b></li><li>– <b>reflect changing priorities across local partners</b></li><li>– <b>reflect cost recovery</b></li></ul></li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>By autumn: Board agree transition plan &amp; timeline</b></li></ul>

Review post Govt decision in summer

# Summary: Priorities & Objectives

Intelligence / analysis	Leadership /convening	Support for place
<p>1. Continuity: core proposition as required by Government incl intelligence</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support partners in development of place and champion economic growth in the area</li> <li>• Ensure strong private and public sector participation in the LEP</li> </ul> <p>Services delivered on behalf of Govt</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Maintain front door to business support</li> <li>➤ Promote the area’s key investment opportunities &amp; secure DBT support &amp; buy-in</li> <li>➤ Ensure delivery of remaining LGF &amp; GBF projects</li> <li>➤ Enable strong business voice into workforce development</li> </ul>	
<p>2. Clean growth, transformational opportunities &amp; support for business</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Promote the major area’s major clean growth opportunities &amp; secure investment</li> </ul>	
<p>3. Growing Places Fund</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Managed effectively and making a contribution to growing the area’s economy</li> </ul>	
<p>4. Inclusive growth</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Embed inclusive growth into wider work across the area</li> </ul>	
<p>5. Transition: enabling &amp; supporting orderly evolution: GSW, devo etc</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continue to evolve operating model as landscape changes</li> </ul>	