

Open

Title: Buckinghamshire Local Industrial Strategy Delivery

Purpose: To update Board members on the operational and delivery structures required to support the effective delivery of the Buckinghamshire Local Industrial Strategy. To update on the progress in the development of a Buckinghamshire Growth Board.

Recommendation: That Board members note the content of this report and endorse the updated sub-board and partnership board delivery structures required to develop sector action plans to deliver the Buckinghamshire Local Industrial Strategy.

1 Bucks LEP delivery structures/Board member representation

The Buckinghamshire Local Industrial Strategy was launched on July 19th at Cranfield University alongside the Industrial Strategies for the other Arc LEPs. A number of business representatives including Eman Martin-Vignerte from Bosch, Alan Cox from the Satellite Application Catapult and Becky Gregory-Clark from the National Film and TV School were invited to participate in a round table discussion with BEIS Minister Lord Henley.

Now that the strategy has been launched our focus has moved into delivery of the strategy and the development of detailed business cases to support the strategy ambitions. It is our intention to establish new sub-board structures to support this process, building where possible on existing groupings from either the skills advisory panels or network groupings.

Recruitment is currently underway to further strengthen the LEP Board to support this process with interviews for up to 3 new board members taking place on the week commencing September 16th.

It is recommended that our sub sub-board structure is reviewed and refreshed to support the delivery of the Local Industrial Strategy, improve accountability arrangements and to improve Buckinghamshire LEP representation with partners and on outside bodies. We will need in due course to establish terms of reference for each group to be presented to the BLEP board for approval. We have a number of sub structures currently in place listed below with areas recommended for consideration. In addition the Board may wish to consider a formal assurance sub board given the BLEP incorporation status and future staffing and financial operation obligations.

We currently have the following structures in place:

Buckinghamshire Business First (Growth Hub Board) – Current BBF members on the Buckinghamshire LEP Board - Andrew Smith, Michael Garvey, Hiren Ghandi, Philippa Batting, Eman Martin-Vignerte & Alistair Lomax. **Recommendation** – Consider formal link between BLEP and BBF boards.

ESIF Committee – Klaus Allion (BBF) Chair - Philippa Batting & Richard Harrington both on current membership with Ian Barham as the Officer Link – **Recommendation** - Future potential to merge with a UK Shared Prosperity Fund board and invite a current LEP Board Member to Chair from 2020.

Enterprise Zone Board - current LEP representation Michael Garvey & Richard Harrington, (Clive Harris Bucks CC and Steve Bowles AVDC Members). The accountable body is AVDC.

Recommendation – Consider membership and new MOU upon establishment of the Buckinghamshire Council and invite additional representatives onto this board to strengthen sectoral specialism–
Recommendation seek suggestions and agreement with BLEP and accountable body.

Bucks Advantage – current membership, Michael Garvey & Philippa Batting representing (BBF) plus 5 local authorities - (leaders or nominated representatives) and Richard Harrington. **Recommendation** – Relationship with BLEP and membership to be reviewed following establishment of the new Buckinghamshire Council.

Skills Advisory Panel – (Chaired by Rebecca Bunting – direct link to main LEP board to continue.) – There is scope however to integrate and develop further the work of the existing Sector Groups that support the Skills Advisory Panel namely Construction Group - Mark Warrilow HS2; Space Group - Mark Wood Reaction Engines; Creative Media Skills Creative group - Ailie Smith; Digital Group - Dave Oxley, McAfee -; Health & Life-science – to be established but linking to HSC Ventures steering group chaired by Angela Spang); High Performance Engineering – working with Silverstone TEC Cluster – Pim Van Baarsen, Food - Tony Laurenson. **Recommendation** to work towards integrating and rationalising the existing Sector Groups to align with the Assets and Drivers identified in the **Local Industrial Strategy**.

LGF Scrutiny Committee (currently 3 private sector members and 2 public sector members chaired by Andrew Smith) **Recommendation** to establish a wider ranging **LGF and Programme Delivery Board** – Michael Garvey Vice-Chair to lead (4 other members – 3 private 1 public) (Proposed members - Hiren Ghandi, Adrian Brown, Steve Broadbent & new board member).

Local Transport Board - (currently 3 members – BCC Leader & Portfolio Holder plus Michael Garvey is nominated BLEP representative) **Recommendation** This funding has now been allocated once, therefore it is recommended that decisions relating to any recycled funds could be directed through the proposed LGF & Delivery Board.

We will also need to establish new sub board structures for example a Enterprise and Innovation Board (or LIS Delivery Board) is signposted in the LIS for establishment. A new **Finance, Employment, Audit and Risk Board** (FEAR) will be required to cover our future staffing obligations– **Recommendation** LEP Chairman to Chair a new FEAR Board to be accompanied by 4 board members. We will also need to consider future Buckinghamshire Growth Board BLEP representation and engagement.

Development of business cases for key assets and opportunities

The above sub board structures would be an important draw developing the business cases and action plans linked to the Local Industrial Strategy priority sectors and assets. The initial programmes of activity will be undertaken at an individual sector level and then would be assessed and endorsed at programme level. The role of a LIS Delivery Board would be to ensure momentum in programme delivery by ensuring that underpinning data and evidence remains robust. It will also endorse potential funding bids, commission business cases and make requests for support funding through the main Buckinghamshire LEP board.

It is expected that the detailed business cases will be required for any substantial bids to a future Comprehensive Spending Review, via the Shared Prosperity Fund or European Reserve Fund.

2 Buckinghamshire Growth Board

We are pleased to report that MHCLG have agreed to support the establishment of a Buckinghamshire Growth Board. A Buckinghamshire Growth Board will ensure the right platform, on Buckinghamshire geography, to align the relevant public bodies and the Buckinghamshire LEP for delivering a holistic and place shaping approach to growth and development.

A shadow board will operate over the remainder of the current 2019/20 financial year whilst the new Buckinghamshire Council is being established. Buckinghamshire LEP will be directly involved in both the main growth board and the supporting officer group.

Board members are asked to:

- **Note the content of this report.**
- **Endorse the updated sub-board and partnership board delivery structures required to develop sector action plans to deliver the Buckinghamshire Local Industrial Strategy.**