

Meeting Minutes

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Meeting title		GFirst LEP Board Meeting				
Date/time/venue		19/04/2016 @ 08:30 - Head Space				
Attendees		Members: Diane Savory (DS) (Chair), David Owen (DO), Neill Ricketts (NR) Roman Cooper (RC), Stephen Jordan (SJ), Mike Warner (MW), Adam Starkey (AS), Claire Mould (CM), Stephen Marston (SM), Mark Hawthorne (MH), Rob Loveday (RL) & Matthew Burgess (MB) In attendance: Lynn Stacey (Minutes), Pete Carr (PC), Katie Jenkins (KJ), Geoff Wheeler (GW), Nigel Riglar (Nigel R) Sarah Danson (SD), Mally Findlater (MF), Neil Hopwood (NH) for Item 7/8 & Martin Bruton (MBr) for Item 10				
Apo	nogies	Roger Mortlock				
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<u>No</u> 1.	Welcome & Introdu DS welcomed all Bo		Action	Ву		
2.	Minutes of Last Me Minutes were agree	eeting 16.2.16 & Matters Arising d.				
3.	Declarations of Into	erest claration of interest – see separate document.	LS	ASAP		
4.	(graduate) secondm Sector Groups – DC the balance of ensur	confirmed we are looking at a Civil Service Fast Stream	DO	21.6.16		
	<u>Due Diligence (DD) recommendations</u> – LEP Investment Panel <u>Decision: Approval</u> was given by the Board for the Investment Panel (which currently makes recommendations to the Board about GIIF funding decisions) to expand its role to review future Growth Deal projects and the associated due diligence reports and make recommendations for funding decisions to the LEP Board.					
	received 20 express The Sub Group will Dragon's Den prese The Board emphasis during this process a shortlist of projects i project business cas	gave an update on the process and confirmed we have sion of interest at present (deadline for applications – 25.4.16). review these between 27.4.16 – 3.5.16 and a LEP Board entation will take place at our next Board Meeting (21.6.16). sed that potential conflicts of interest will need to be managed and it was agreed that this should be reviewed once the s known. The deadline for submission to Government of the ses and the overall narrative and bid document is 5.7.16. PC manage expectations of the very strict deadlines with external	PC	21.6.16		

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	Assurance Framework – PC confirmed a formal review is being carried out to update the framework. An audit will be carried out through GCC to ensure compliance. PC to give an update in June's board meeting.		
5.	Devolution update An update was given from the latest Leadership Gloucestershire meeting and KJ confirmed Greg Clark is aware of Glos position and is keen to discuss further, but existing deals are taking priority. A discussion took place about other devolution deals that have been secured elsewhere and the impact on these that having a mayor has had. The Board will be updated further on local devolution discussions at the next meeting.		
6.	Growth Hub Expansion and Network – update from sub-group PC gave an update on the work done by the sub-group, which is progressing well, but due to internal staff changes at the University, there has been a slight delay in sign off of the issues raised by the Board in February. The sub-group will be meeting again to finalise its recommendations back to the Board and any conditions which will be required for the funding agreement. Changes have been made to the Business Plan, which means another DD report is required. SD confirmed the urgent need for procurement for the CRM and Network Centres. A discussion took place on who is responsible for what and who is accountable for any budget deficits. It was confirmed sustainability is a key aspect of this project and the business plan includes a number of inter-related funding streams.	SD/SJ/ RC	May 2016
	Royal Agricultural University/Farm 491 project - update — MW gave an update on this project and confirmed the sub-group (DS/MW) approved the evidence submitted by RAU and that the sub-group fully supports the Business Case and is satisfied that Planning matters are in hand and moving forward in the right direction. The sub-group members confirmed they are content for a funding agreement to be prepared for the RAU/Farm 491 project. GFirst LEP staff will now work with the project promoter and GCC to prepare the funding agreement as authorised by the Board in February.	MF/PC	May/Jun 2016
7.	Project updates NH gave an introduction on the work he's doing and issued a Growth Deal Dashboard, which included details on our spend profile and capital leverage plus jobs and employment land. These figures will be updated on a quarterly basis, and it was agreed NH will include a brief narrative on the next report and we would use the pipeline when looking at any shortfalls. ALL to give NH feedback on this report.	NH ALL	ASAP
8.	GREEN project update PC gave an update on his concerns about the impact of the University Technical College (UTC) build on the opening and usage of the building used for the GREEN project. He also explained there appeared to be a gap between the aspirations in the SEP business case for GREEN and the outputs required through the funding agreement, with the concerns on the Berkeley project, where there is a gap on the aspirations and what is being asked through the funding agreement. NR stated the issues are more with the phasing of this project and we need to build in some flexibility in these projects to cater changes/requirements which are outside our control.		
	MF stated we can include flexibility but we need a better understanding to enable us to report back to Govt. We also need to ensure we have clear communication on what has been agreed. The GFirst LEP team will continue to work with SGS College staff to clarify the likely impacts of any changes to the project that come about through the setting up of the UTC.	NH/ MBr	May & Jun 2016

Cyber Project update PC gave an introduction to this project. Nigel confirmed the proposal has been revised because of the leasing arrangements for part of the building involved at Berkeley Green site and approved with the funding agreement to be put in place as soon as possible. PC/DO expressed their thanks to the Accountable Body staff and particularly Claire Edwards, for her help in dealing with the changes to the funding agreement.		
Cross-LEP collaboration: a) Nuclear b) iAero		
<u>Nuclear</u> – MBr gave an update on this and confirmed EDF has asked to meet the Board to give a brief on the opportunities for business, skills and employment that Hinkley Point C will provide. Invites to follow shortly (6.6.16).		
A discussion took place on the supply chain activity, with the need to get businesses ready by engaging them early in the process. MH stated we need to understand these opportunities and the impact on other areas of the county. MB to take this forward. The Board indicated its support for cross-LEP working on nuclear collaboration and sought further information about the type and level of support needed by the group working on supporting the supply chain. DO highlighted the importance of the Berkeley Green project engaging with and supporting the nuclear supply chain as per the original vision for the project put forward in the SEP.	MBr	
<u>iAero</u> – RL gave some background information on this and confirmed the industry is funding a project manager, who will look at the opportunities for the county. The Board indicated its support for cross-LEP working on aerospace collaboration and asked to be kept informed of progress.		
AOB Media training – arranged for the 29.4.16. LS to arrange timings etc to be issued. Geoff Wheeler – DS/DO thanked Geoff for his support and his work with the LEP as Leader of Stroud District Council and wished him well for his retirement. Renewables – this needs collaboration with nuclear and iAero, including funding. EU Referendum – it was agreed this Board needs to remain neutral and therefore, no discussion took place on this topic and GFirst LEP will not be taking a stance on whether/not to remain in the EU.	LS	ASAP
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- Dates of Next Meetings:

 ➤ Tuesday 21st June 2016 @ 08:30 to 12:30 plus lunch @ Harnhill Innovation centre in Cirencester

 - Tuesday 9th August 2016 @ 08:30
 Tuesday 4th October 2016 @ 08:30
 Tuesday 13th December 2016 @ 08:30ound