

**GREATER CAMBRIDGE - GREATER PETERBOROUGH**

**LOCAL ENTERPRISE PARTNERSHIP BOARD**

**WEDNESDAY 6TH APRIL 2011**

**Minutes**

<p><b>Present</b></p> <p>Neville Reyner CBE DL <b>(NR)</b>          Allan Arnott OBE <b>(AA)</b>          Councillor Ian Bates <b>(IB)</b>          John Bridge OBE <b>(JB)</b>          Councillor Marco Cereste <b>(MC)</b>          Trevor Ellis <b>(TE)</b>          Professor Sir Richard Friend <b>(RF)</b></p> <p>Councillor Terry King <b>(TK)</b>          Dr Lynn Morgan <b>(LM)</b>          Mark Reeve <b>(MR)</b>          Councillor Sian Reid <b>(SR)</b>          Dr Robert Swann <b>(RS)</b>          Councillor Jill Tuck <b>(JT)</b>          Neil Darwin <b>(ND)</b>          Laura Halstead <b>(LH)</b>          Alex Plant <b>(AP)</b>          Helen Taylor <b>(HT)</b></p> <p><b>Apologies</b></p> <p>Professor Mike Thorne <b>(MT)</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Chair of the Board – Chair of Anglia Components Ltd</li> <li>- Operations Director at Caterpillar Industrial Power Systems Division</li> <li>- Leader of Huntingdonshire District Council</li> <li>- CEO of the Cambridgeshire Chambers of Commerce</li> <li>- Leader of Peterborough City Council</li> <li>- Chairman of CS Ellis Group</li> <li>- Engaged in various businesses and Cavendish Professor of Physics at the University of Cambridge</li> <li>- Portfolio Holder for Corporate Services at Rutland County Council</li> <li>- CEO of the Arthur Rank Hospice Charity</li> <li>- CITB Managing Director of Chalcroft Construction</li> <li>- Leader of Cambridge City Council</li> <li>- Entrepreneur – Specialising in Technology and High Tech Start-Ups</li> <li>- Leader of Cambridgeshire County Council</li> <li>- Interim Operations Director GCGP LEP</li> <li>- Interim Communications and Engagement Lead GCGP LEP</li> <li>- Interim Strategy Director GCGP LEP</li> <li>- Senior Democratic Services Officer, Huntingdonshire District Council</li> <li>- Vice-Chancellor of Anglia Ruskin University</li> </ul>
<p><b>DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST</b></p>	
<p>No declarations raised by Board members</p>	
<p><b>1. WELCOME BY THE CHAIRMAN</b></p>	<p><b>ACTIONS</b></p>
<p>NR welcomed Board members to the first meeting of the Greater Cambridge Greater Peterborough Local Enterprise Partnership.</p>	
<p><b>2. AN OVERVIEW OF THE LEP – CHAIRMAN'spening remarks</b></p>	
<p>In his role as Chairman, NR welcomed everyone to the inaugural meeting of the GCGP LEP Partnership Board and congratulated those present on their appointment to the Board.</p>	
<p><b>3. THE ROLE OF THE LEP</b></p>	
<p>AP explained the purpose of the Panel along with its aims and objectives.</p> <p>The Board were advised that there were currently 32 LEPs across England. In discussing funding, it was confirmed that there is very limited Government funds for LEPs and no source of funding had been identified for day to day running costs.</p> <p>SR drew attention to two applications for funding from the Regional Growth Fund (RGF), submitted by the Project Board.</p>	

4.	<b>THE GCGP ECONOMY</b>	
	<p>A presentation was given by ND on the GCGP economic geography. Board was advised that our area currently had a population of 1.3 million which was expected to grow to 1.5 million by 2031.</p> <p>The area shared many transport issues e.g. the A14, A1, A47 with 56,000 people commuting daily to Cambridge and 30,000 to Peterborough.</p> <p>Board' attention was drawn to the area's strengths being:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ ICT and Telecoms – 50,000 jobs;</li> <li>◆ Biotech and Life Sciences – 600 companies;</li> <li>◆ Environmental Goods/Services – £600mn per annum;</li> <li>◆ Manufacturing and Engineering – A1 – A47 – A14 corridors;</li> <li>◆ Agriculture, Food and Drink – the UK Leader;</li> <li>◆ Creative Industries – £1 billion turnover per annum;</li> <li>◆ Visitor Economy – 20 million visitors per annum; and</li> </ul> <p>Its weaknesses:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Skills, in some places – need technician skills to continue high tech growth, also the area includes the largest HE “cold spot” in the UK;</li> <li>◆ Transport and Infrastructure – £5billion gap;</li> <li>◆ Impact of Strategic Defence Review;</li> <li>◆ Housing supply and affordability.</li> </ul> <p>In expanding the term HE “cold spot”, the Board was advised that higher education is limited in the Peterborough area and that there was a high migration of young people from rural areas because of the lack of universities. In response it was reported that there was a high demand for University Centre in Peterborough. Mention also was made of the role of the open university and regional colleges and the need to work with secondary schools to improve outcomes and school leavers' employability.</p> <p>With regard to the impact of the strategic defence review, the Board recognised the need to attract new manufacturing jobs to the area to offset the loss of highly skilled engineering jobs. Furthermore, the Board stressed that it was essential to tackle the pockets of deprivation in the area.</p>	
5.	<b>POTENTIAL PRIORITIES</b>	
	<p>Consideration was given to the following priorities:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Skills and employment: defining employer needs and engaging with providers to deliver the relevant training for growth sectors;</li> <li>◆ Strategic economic vision, infrastructure, housing and planning: identifying broad infrastructure needs, developing a high level (but non-statutory) vision to under-pin sustainable economic growth as part of an integrated approach to growth and infrastructure delivery, identifying</li> </ul>	

	<p>broad infrastructure needs and taking co-ordinating action in relation to the most pressing issues;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Economic development and high growth businesses: providing a focused and value added business support service to key growth sectors;</li> <li>◆ Funding, including EU funding, regional growth funding, and private sector: developing a co-ordinated cross LEP approach to major funding bids and proposals in conjunction with the private/public/voluntary sectors and business.</li> </ul> <p>In so doing, it was stressed that there is a need to have strategic and tactical priorities with a mix of technology and innovation centres as well as Enterprise Hubs.</p> <p>With regard to the four priorities, the Board accepted them in principle but were of the opinion that they required expanding to refer to all levels of education providers.</p> <p>Having considered the vision statement, the Board agreed that this should be amended slightly to give a broader definition to include manufacturing.</p>	<p>AP/ND</p>
6.	<p><b>ESTABLISHING A FORMAL LEP INFRASTRUCTURE</b></p>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ <b>LEP Strategy Day</b> – Board agreed to hold an “away day” to consider the Board’s priorities and the way forward – possible dates in May would be circulated to Board via email. It was envisaged that the day would be split into two with all those previously involved with the project board being invited to the morning session;</li> <li>◆ <b>Representation on the (European Panel of the Local Government Association) East of England</b> - having noted that the next meeting of the European Panel would be held on 15th April 2011 and given the importance of European funding, Board agreed that the Chairman should represent the Board on this Panel;</li> <li>◆ <b>The role of Sub-Groups</b> – In discussing the role and formation of Sub-Groups, Board agreed that each group needs to be given a purpose and that this could not be done until the Board was clear about what it wanted to achieve.</li> </ul> <p>Having referred to housing, Board agreed that discussions around this issue should include other Leaders and Stakeholders, which could possibly be worked into the away day.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ <b>LEP resources</b> – In discussing staffing and funding arrangements for the partnership, Board considered the benefits of having corporate status. In recognising the need to act quickly on this matter, Board requested AP and ND to explore the possibility of becoming a company limited by guarantee and report back thereon to the next meeting;</li> <li>◆ <b>Communications</b> – having been updated on recent communications and engagement activities, Board challenged the use of certain media routes given that the Board was in its early stages and felt that these should be</li> </ul>	<p>AP/ND</p> <p>MC/NR</p> <p>All to note</p> <p>AP/ND</p> <p>All to note</p>

	<p>used to highlight the work of the Board as it grows.</p> <p>At the same time, Board suggested that local economic development officers be used to identify the needs of local businesses.</p> <p>◆ <b>Enterprise zones</b> – Board’s attention was drawn to bidding arrangements for the new enterprise zones. Board were advised that the expressions of interest pro-formas should be submitted by the end of April. These would then be considered by the Board and an Independent Assessor, with a view to submitting the most promising sites to the Department of Communities and Local Government;</p> <p>◆ <b>Requests for funding</b> – having considered a request for funding from the Chairman of the Great Cambridge Partnership and given the current financial restraints of the Board, it was agreed that the request be refused.</p>	<p><b>AP/ND</b></p> <p><b>NR</b></p>
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**Date of Next meeting: 18<sup>th</sup> May 2011 – Strategy Away Day - 13.00pm – 18.30pm,**

**Venue: Sealed Air UK Ltd, Clifton House, Marsdon Road, St Neots PE19 2HN**

**Signed:** .....

**Neville Reyner CBE DL  
Chairman, Greater Cambridge Greater Peterborough LEP**

**Date:** .....

<b>Matters Arising:LEP Board – 6 April 2011</b>		
<b>5. Potential priorities</b>		
Action:	AP/ND to consider the vision statement, and consider amending to give a broader definition to include manufacturing, and represent to the Strategy Away Day on 18 <sup>th</sup> May.	<b>ND/AP</b>
<b>6. Establishing formal LEP infrastructure</b>		
Action:	Finalise arrangements for a Strategy Away Day on 18 May	<b>ND/AP</b>
Action:	Establish LEP representation on the LGA European Panel East of England	<b>MC/NR</b>
Action:	Review options available to resource the LEP identify a possible legal structure	<b>ND/AP</b>
Action:	Formally respond to the Greater Cambridge Partnership request for funding	<b>NR</b>