

Hampshire Prosperity Partnership Board

Date: Monday 9 June

Time: 14:00 – 16:00

Location: Hampshire County Council, Mitchell Room, Ell Court,
Winchester

Present:

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| Nick Adams-King – HCC (Chair) | Mark Smith – University of Southampton |
| Alastair Welch – ABP (Vice Chair) | Laura Read – Marwell Wildlife |
| Cllr Zoe Higgins – HCC | Barney Ely – Hays |
| Cllr Martin Tod – Winchester CC | Simon Watson – Milestone Infrastructure |
| Cllr Gareth Williams – Rushmoor BC | Natalie Wigman – HCC |
| Mike Gaston – HSDC | Stephen Martin – HCC |
| Gary Westbrook – HCC | Teresa Hogsbjerg – HCC (minutes) |
| Paul West – independent marketing consultant | Emma Smith – MHCLG Observer |
| Fiona Stilwell – PETA Limited | |
| James Hassett – Solent Freeport | |

Apologies: Carolyn Williamson – HCC
Sarah Greer – University of Winchester
Cllr Phil North – Test Valley BC
Joanna Butler – Butler Farms
Ross McNally – Hampshire Chamber of Commerce
Nicola Kildunne – FSB

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| 1. | Welcome | |
| | Cllr N A-K welcomed the meeting | |
| 2. | Minutes of Last meeting | |
| 2.1 | AW covered this item, the minutes were agreed | |
| 3. | Action points from last meeting | |

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| 3.1 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Update the board on the approach to implementation of the Economy and Growth Plan, at a future meeting. This was covered by agenda item 6. • SM to contact Board members to request feedback on how the Board is working 12 months in, either via email or a one-to-one discussion – SM updated the Board on the feedback request which had been sent out. • Bring a broad options paper to the June board meeting for discussion. This would enable development of a proposed approach for agreement in September. This was covered by agenda item 9. | |
| 4. | Item 4 - Conflicts of interest – any verbal declarations | |
| 4.1 | None | |
| 5. | Item 5 - MHCLG observer – welcome and MHCLG update | |
| 5.1 | <p>Emma Smith, area lead at MHCLG for South East, provided an update to the Board, covering:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Spending Review: to be followed by publication of relevant strategies including the Industrial Strategy and the Infrastructure Strategy. • Devolution and Local Government Reform • Strategic Planning: importance of readiness for this. • Health & Wellbeing: including co-design of ICBs; Mayor’s role seen as pivotal. • Consultations: including local government finance, NNDR, and planning reforms. • Circular Economy: DEFRA focusing on recycling and sustainability. <p>In respect of the Industrial Strategy, the Board raised concern over the South East being overlooked, and emphasised the importance of recognising nationally significant clusters and corridors in Hampshire and the Solent. There was a need for clear communication with government, with HPPB seen as knowledgeable and credible.</p> | |
| 6 | Item 6 - Implementation of HPPB priority workstreams – overview | |
| 6.1 | <p>SM presented an update on mobilisation and communications. Reflections from the board:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It was requested that papers for future meetings and slide decks be provided prior to the meeting. • Devolution: the current work programme must be completed and embedded by April 2028; otherwise, it would | |

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| | <p>be at risk of being overtaken by devolution. Current work should feed into preparations for devolution e.g. thinking about a Local Growth Plan.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Growth Boards: question raised about the future of these and their role, in the context of devolution. • Industrial Strategy: it would be important to ensure that the work programme was well aligned with this. • Collaboration: crucial to work in as joined up a way as possible, across all of the local authorities in Hampshire and the Solent. <p>Action: Risks to be covered as part of the next implementation update.</p> | HCC |
| 7 | Item 7 - Get Hampshire Working Plan | |
| 7.1 | <p>Jamie Mackay from HCC's Economy and Skills team introduced the item. Reflections from the board:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Devolution: need to align this work with preparations for devolution, and to complete and embed the plan by April 2028. • Data-Driven Approach: data and other evidence should be used to understand the causes of worklessness and local needs and market conditions in Hampshire, and to identify underperforming areas, success stories, and gaps in provision. • Targeted Action: efforts should be focused where outcomes (e.g. employment, health) are lowest. We should identify what interventions work and why, prioritising interventions with the highest impact. The approach should reflect disparities between places in Hampshire. • Joined-Up Approach: avoid fragmented efforts; build a locally understood model with employer input; and ensure clarity about which partners are leading in different areas. • Artificial Intelligence and the Labour Market: consider both risks and opportunities; get ahead of emerging trends. • LSIPs & Skills: ensure that this work builds on the existing Local Skills Improvement Plans. • Policy Alignment: Ensure alignment with the Industrial Strategy and other national frameworks. | |
| 8 | Item 8 - Digital platform for business support | |
| 8.1 | The proposal for work to develop the digital platform was introduced by TH. | |

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| | Following discussion, the Board was supportive of the first part of the proposal, to make immediate improvements to the Economy and Skills website, in order to support delivery of current programmes such as the Growth Hub. Regarding the digital platform (the second part of the proposal), the Board's view was that in the context of devolution, HCC should explore with the unitary authorities the potential for a shared approach across Hampshire and the Solent. | |
| 9 | Item 9 - Approach to use of LEP legacy reserves | |
| 9.1 | SM introduced the item. Reflections from the Board: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The first funding call should be targeted, with clear priority areas and objectives. • There needs to be a clear link to the Industrial Strategy. • The process should provide effective triage of project proposals, and clarity about how they are initially assessed. • A potential approach would be to run a "pilot" call in the Autumn, with a capped budget, to gain understanding of the types of projects coming forward. | |
| 10 | Item 10 - Hampshire 2050 Year of Health and Wellbeing | |
| 10.1 | TH introduced the item, summarising the proposed next steps to be taken, following on from the presentation to the Board in March by Simon Bryant, Director of Public Health. The Board approved the approach, and emphasised the importance of making businesses aware of the support that is already out there. | |
| 11 | Item 11 - AOB | |
| 11.1 | None | |

Next Meeting:

9 September – 14:00 – 16:00 PETA, Portsmouth