

## Hampshire Prosperity Partnership Board

**Date:** 24 March 2025

**Time:** 14:00

**Location:** Whitehill Room, Barnsgrove

**Present:**

Cllr Phil North – Test Valley BC	Alastair Welch – ABP
Cllr Martin Tod – Winchester CC	Laura Read – Marwell Wildlife
Cllr Gareth Williams – Rushmoor BC	Fiona Stilwell – PETA Limited
Mike Gaston – HSDC	Joanna Butler – Butler Farms
Ross McNally – Hampshire Chamber of Commerce	Simon Watson – Milestone Infrastructure
	Simon Bryant (Via Teams)

**Apologies:** Carolyn Williamson – HCC  
 Nicola Kildunne - FSB  
 Paul West – Independent marketing consultant  
 Barney Ely – Hays  
 Mark Smith – University of Southampton  
 Sarah Greer – University of Winchester  
 James Hassett – Solent Freeport

		Action
<b>1.</b>	<b>Welcome</b>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NAK welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked JB for the hospitality at Barnsgrove</li> <li>• Apologies were noted</li> </ul>	
<b>2.</b>	<b>Minutes of Last meeting</b>	
<b>2.1</b>	January – No comments were made on the minutes - Approved February - No comments were made on the minutes – Approved	

<b>3.</b>	<b>Action points from last meeting</b>	
<b>3.1</b>	January - <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• HCC to circulate the conflicts of interest register for completion by HPPB members – completed</li> <li>• Hampshire Skills Partnership Terms of Reference – completed</li> <li>• Circulate the document which went to government outlining the request for devolution – circulated</li> <li>• Priorities – Completed and for further discussion at this meeting</li> </ul>	

	February – No actions were taken	
<b>4.</b>	<b>Item 4 - Conflicts of interest – any verbal declaration</b>	
<b>4.1</b>	None	
<b>5.</b>	<b>Item 5 - HPPB priorities and workstreams</b>	
<b>5.1</b>	<p>SM introduced the item, recapping on the previous discussion and went through each priority action in turn</p> <p>The board discussed the following key points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Any work needs to consider future changes with regards to Devolution and Local Government Reform</li> </ul> <p><b>Meeting Energy Needs:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Agreed on the overall aims of the project</li> <li>Requested consideration of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Broaden the scope to include energy as well as grid capacity</li> <li>Needs to reinforce the AI strategy</li> <li>Need to use the project to identify vulnerabilities to enable lobbying for change and investments</li> <li>Needs to identify where energy and grid capacity is a barrier to growth and business development and what we as a Board can do to support economic growth.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><b>Pathways to Employment:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>There is a need to address the practical concerns of business in the delivery of programmes such as Connect to Work, specifically around the Employment Rights Bill and the requirements of employers</li> <li>Help businesses to understand where to find support in employing people with individual needs</li> <li>Case studies of where these or similar programmes have worked from a business perspective would be valuable</li> <li>Importance of the role of the Hampshire Skills Partnership – clarity on how the partnership and the Board work together, so that conversations are not being replicated.</li> </ul> <p><b>Business Support:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Needs to be reflective of what businesses need</li> <li>Creating a “no wrong door” access point to support for businesses</li> <li>The project proposal for an online hub needs further development</li> </ul> <p><b>Action</b> – Scope for the proposed online hub to be developed in more detail and brought to a future HPPB meeting</p> <p><b>High potential Sectors and Clusters:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Naming, geography and scope of clusters needs to be considered</li> </ul> <p><b>Infrastructure:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No comments made</li> </ul>	<b>HCC</b>
<b>6</b>	<b>Item 6 - Economy and Growth Plan – progress report</b>	

6.1	The Board agreed the proposed approach	
7	<b>Item 7 - Skills Strategy – progress report</b>	
7.1	<p>SM Introduced the item on the scope of the Skills Strategy development.</p> <p>The board discussed the following key points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The importance of readiness for work, positive mindset and soft skills needed to be successful in the workplace</li> <li>• Skills development needs to be applicable to all age groups</li> <li>• Need to promote the relationships between business and education</li> <li>• Recognise the interdependencies between health, education and being successful in the workplace</li> <li>• The link with LSIPs is important, taking into account an expected change of geographical coverage from Autumn 2025</li> </ul>	
8	<b>Item 8 - Devolution – letter of support from HPPB</b>	
8.1	<p>Agreed</p> <p><b>Action:</b> Letter to be sent to the Minister by AW</p>	HCC/ AW
9	<b>Item 9 - Hampshire 2050 Partnership Year of Health and Wellbeing</b>	
9.1	<p>Simon Bryant introduced the item on the Year of Health and Wellbeing, covering information about the current and future health of the workforce.</p> <p>The Board discussed the following key points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Employers need to recognise that with an aging workforce they have a responsibility to create a working environment which supports people to extend their healthy working life</li> <li>• Recognising the links between good jobs, wealth, health and the positive impact they have within a community</li> <li>• The importance of green prescribing and similar programmes to support health and wellbeing</li> <li>• Importance of businesses supporting employees. What do businesses need from NHS, and Public Health to help them to support a healthy workforce?</li> </ul> <p><b>Action:</b> Work with Public Health to understand what role the HPPB can play in supporting this initiative, and actions which can be taken to support Health and Wellbeing activities within the workplace</p>	HCC
10	<b>AOB</b>	
10.1	No additional items were raised	

**Next Meeting:**

- 14 May 2025 10:00 – 12:00 – University of Southampton