



MINUTES OF ENTERPRISE ZONE BOARD MEETING

21 March 2019

Meeting Title	Cheshire Science Corridor Enterprise Zone Board	
Date	21 March 2019	
Time	13:00-15:00	
Location	Birchwood Park	
Agenda Item		Action/Decision
1.	<p>Attendees and apologies</p> <p>EZ Board Members: Robert Mee, Chair of EZ Board Cllr Paul Bates, Cheshire East Council Tony Bochenski, Independent Board Member Cllr Rus Bowden, Warrington Borough Council Chris Farrow, Independent Board Member Christine White, Astra Zeneca</p> <p>In Attendance: John Adlen, Cheshire and Warrington LEP Chris Capes, Cheshire West & Chester Council Julian Cobley, Skills & Growth Company Philip Cox, Cheshire and Warrington LEP</p> <p>Apologies: Cllr Brian Clarke, Cheshire West & Chester Council Stephen Fitzsimons, Warrington & Co. Lisa Harris, Cheshire West & Chester Council Joel Tagg, Cities & Growth Unit</p>	
2.	<p>Previous EZ Board minutes</p> <p>All matters arising from the previous EZ Board held on 24 January 2019 have either been actioned or will be covered in this board.</p>	Minutes agreed and signed off
3.	<p>Declarations of interest</p> <p>(a) Cllr Paul Bates declared an interest on behalf of Cheshire East Council in Alderley Park</p> <p>(b) Cllr Russ Bowden declared an interest in Birchwood Park on behalf of Warrington Borough Council</p> <p>(c) Chris Farrow declared an interest in sites in Ellesmere Port as Chair of the Ellesmere Port Development Board</p>	
4.	<p>Birchwood Park Update</p> <p>Martin O'Rourke from Patrizia gave a presentation updating the EZ Board on progress to date at Birchwood Park.</p>	

<p>5.</p>	<p>Governance</p> <p>a) Updated Terms of Reference John Adlen presented an updated Terms of Reference for the EZ Board, explaining that changes were necessary to reflect the new delegated authority that the EZ Board received and the subsequent changes in the appointment of private sector non-executive board members.</p> <p>b) Appointment of independent EZ Board members Philip Cox reminded EZ Board members that in light of the new delegated authority given to the EZ Board, the private sector board members would now need to be appointed through an open and transparent process and to this end the LEP was advertising a number of non-executive roles, including appointments to the EZ Board. The closing date for applications was 31 March 2019.</p> <p>c) Officer support from Cheshire East Robert Mee noted that John Willis had now left the Skills & Growth Company to take up a new role with Manchester Metropolitan University and that Julian Cobley from the Skills & Growth Company would attend EZ Board meetings to provide officer support for Cheshire East Council. Robert expressed his thanks to John for all of his support over the last three years of the Enterprise Zone and wished him the best of luck in his new role.</p>	<p>New Terms of Reference Approved</p>
<p>6.</p>	<p>EZ investment cases</p> <p>a) Quadrant Phase 2 John Adlen reported that a legal agreement for the investment in Quadrant Phase 2 at Birchwood Park had been drafted and presented the Investment Term Sheet. He reported that the LEP’s Performance and Investment Committee had ratified the decision of the EZ Board to approve the investment, subject to two clauses being added into the legal agreement to incentivise the applicant in terms of lettings and to ensure value for money in terms of the electricity infrastructure.</p>	<p>Final terms approved subject to the recommendations from the P&I Committee</p>
<p>7.</p>	<p>Operational update</p> <p>a) Growth Director’s update The EZ Board considered and noted the Growth Director’s report on key development activities undertaken during the last period.</p> <p>Tony Bochenski requested that a regular report setting out the current and pipeline investments in the EZ be presented to the EZ Board.</p> <p>b) Business Rate Discount applications The EZ Board ratified the following Business Rate Discount applications:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Grundfos Pumps ▪ 7i Group ▪ Cellcentric 	<p>Agreed that the Growth Director will provide a regular report to the Board on EZ investments</p> <p>Approved</p>

<p>8.</p>	<p>Marketing and communications</p> <p>a) Marketing and promotion activities</p> <p>The EZ Board considered and noted the Growth Director’s report on key marketing and promotional activities undertaken during the last period. John Adlen reported the appointment of a new LEP Director of Marketing & Communications, Catherine Walker, and it was agreed to invite Catherine to a future EZ Board to discuss the marketing of the Enterprise Zone going forward.</p> <p>b) MIPIM 2019</p> <p>John Adlen reported on the LEP’s recent delegation to MIPIM to promote the sub-region. A number of events were held to promote the Science Corridor including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <i>Cheshire and Warrington: How Clean Energy is Adding Value in Real Estate</i> in association with Addleshaw Goddard, Peel and the Cheshire Energy Hub ▪ <i>Invest West: Regeneration in Historic Maritime Communities</i> in association with Lancashire LEP, Brock Carmichael Architects, Peel and Cheshire West & Chester Council ▪ <i>Science & Knowledge: how Liverpool and Cheshire are Building a World Class Cluster</i> ▪ The Growth Director sat on a panel on the <i>Power of R&D Partnerships</i> on the Invest Newcastle stand with Newcastle Council, Colliers International and the British Property Federation <p>In addition, the Growth Director held 15 separate meetings with developers and intermediaries to promote investment and development opportunities within the Science Corridor.</p> <p>Philip Cox reported that a meeting had taken place at MIPIM between Christine Gaskell (Chair of C&WLEP), Steve Rotherham (Mayor of Liverpool City Region) and Eamonn Boylan (Chief Executive of the Greater Manchester Combined Authority) to discuss closer collaboration in the promotion of the region as a global science and technology investment location.</p>	<p>Agreed to invite Catherine Walker to a future EZ Board meeting</p>
<p>9.</p>	<p>Finance update</p> <p>a) Retained Business Rates</p> <p>John Adlen reported that the NNDR1 forecasts for 2019/20 had been received from the three local authorities, which indicated retained business rates for the EZ of £1.76m.</p> <p>b) Borrowing facility update</p> <p>John Adlen and Philip Cox updated members on progress with the three local authority partners to establish a £30m borrowing facility for investments in the EZ, reporting that the LEP had received letters of intent from all three local authorities agreeing in-principle their agreement to establish such a facility and that discussions between the LEP and the three S151 Officers were underway to agree the structure and mechanics of the facility.</p>	

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Chris Farrow reported a significant increase in the number of planning applications for commercial development in Ellesmere Port, which signalled strong continued market demand.

There being no other business, the Chair thanked everyone for their attendance and closed the meeting.

At the close of the meeting Robert Mee signed the legal agreements on the Helix Phase 2 and the Rhino Newport investments.