

DIGITAL CONNECTIVITY BOARD MEETING

**Minutes of the Cheshire and Warrington Local Enterprise Partnership Digital Connectivity Board Meeting
held 10th June 2022 at 4.30pm by video conference call**

Present:

Nicola Dunbar (chair)	Richard Bailey	Becky Stuttard	
Stephen Fitzsimmons	Connor Diskin		

In attendance:

Roy Newton	Ian Brooks		

Apologies

Rupert Collis	Kathryn Eade	Eleanor Blackburn	Bill Carr
Calum Lewis	Helen Gopsill	Charles Jarvis	

Members of the Public (for Part A)

N/A			
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Agenda Item 1: Apologies and Introductions

1.1 This meeting had been re-scheduled following postponement of the meeting due to be held on 24th May 2022. Nicola Dunbar welcomed members. Apologies were noted as above.

Agenda Item 2: Conflicts of Interest

2.1 None. [An ongoing conflict was noted for Rupert Collis in that Fisher German are acting for Cadent with respect to Hynet].

Agenda Item 3: Minutes of Meeting 26th April 2022 and Matters Arising

3.1 The minutes of the meeting held on April 26th, 2022 were accepted as an accurate record.

3.2 A task and finish group for the Delivery Plan had met with Rebecca Luck.

Agenda Item 4: Public Presentation

4.1 There were no public presentations.

Agenda Item 5: LEP Board Discussion Forum

5.1 IB presented the draft slides prepared for the board presentation to take place on 10th June. He explained that the board meeting agenda had expanded to allow time for a short public meeting and presentation, so the amount of available time for the DCB discussion would be reduced to ca. 45 minutes. The purpose of the slides was to provide board members with some context and spark a discussion.

5.2 Because of the time restriction, it was agreed to focus the board on the DCB delivery plan objective to “identify and align priorities”. RN suggested that the discussion at the board should be about the main needs, not the solutions. It was agreed to pose questions to draw out if or whether the LEP board wanted to focus on business over residential requirements or industrial centres over rural communities. DCB could work with others with respect to the appropriate investments and interventions.

5.3 It was also agreed to seek the board’s views on how to break silos and ensure cross functional working.

5.4 BS provided links to various information available from Ofcom e.g. attitudes to social media over different generations of the population and SF was able to provide access to a website showing digital connectivity, coverage and speeds.

5.5 IB agreed to update the presentation accordingly and work with ND over the facilitation of the session.

ACTION: IB/CJ

Agenda Item 6: Any Other Business

6.1 ND updated the sub-board that bootcamps were progressing and the second wave of contracts would be targeted towards digital skills. In addition, the business community, led by the Chamber of Commerce for West Cheshire and North Wales, would be formulating a bid for submission to DfE on the Local Skills Improvement Plan.

Date and Time of next meetings

June 29th, 2022 4.30-6.00pm via MS Teams

July 27th, 2022 4.30-6.00pm via MS Teams