

**Minutes of the Cheshire and Warrington Local Enterprise Partnership**

**Performance and Investment Committee Meeting**

**held on 16th May 2018 at 1.30**

**In attendance:**  Chris Hindley (Chairman in place of GB), Steve Park, Mark Livesey

**Apologies:** John Downes, Ged Barlow, Jan Willis, Lisa Harris

**In attendance:** Rachel Brosnahan, Francis Lee

Presentations on Congleton Link Road by: Chris Hindle (CEC)

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| Item No. | Item | To be Actioned by | By When |
| 1. | Welcome, Introductions and Apologies |  |  |
| 2 | **Conflicts of Interest**  CH asked for any conflicts to be declared.  SP declared his interest in the Warrington Centre Park Link project |  |  |
| 4 | **Minutes from the last meeting:**  Warrington East actions to be addressed in the final business case.  RB to anonymise reference to the people meeting in the minutes | RB | 18th may |
| 5 | **Congleton Link Road Presentation**  Chris Hindle gave a presentation on the scheme (available on the LEP website (from 6th June)  Now a £90m scheme, slightly under budget. Planning permission granted in July 16. CPO orders obtained March 18. Deadline for objections 18th May 18 but can only be on points of law.  £45m LGF but via DfT as it is a retained scheme. The contract will be with DfT, not the LEP. A letter of endorsement is required from the LEP.  £20.4m expected from developers but being underwritten by the council along with their contribution of £23.8m.  BCR 2.5 so “very high value for money”.  Preferred contractor identified following OJEU process but won’t be appointed until cabinet approval is given in June and subject to a 10 day standstill (Alcatel). NEC Option A contract i.e. lump sum so some risk for cost overruns shared with contractor.  P&I agreed to issue a letter of endorsement. | RB | End of May |
| 6 | **Sydney Road Bridge Full Business Case approval**  RB gave a brief update on progress with the SRB project. While there are still elements of approval still outstanding, none of these are now likely to affect delivery of the scheme. Work on diverting the electricity cable has already started. The main works will start in November.  The Committee agreed that a final offer could be issued. | RB | End of May |
| 7 | **Programme Manager update**  RB ran through the programme manager update highlighting key issues which included, an update on Warrington West Station, delays caused by issues getting timely blockages.  Centre Park Link did look like it would be back on programme, but continued delays with land acquisition. SP said latest position was that HOT have been drafted.  Committee agreed to extend the conditional offer letter timescales to take account of the delays. **RB to write to WBC.**  Update on the Life Sciences Fund outputs. **RB to speak to JW re CEC’s stance on revised outputs**  Thornton update – Meeting held with University of Chester to discuss total public investment in site which is circa £26m. :LGF invested £6.8m into the Energy Demonstrator building. The establishment of a task force has been proposed with representation from the LEP, BEIS, and Thornton.  CH asked about what the LEP was doing about GDPR. ML confirmed that CEC were going to carry out an audit of the information the LEP holds and make recommendations. RB explained the LEP were looking at a CRM system which would help compliance with GDPR by holding info in a central Place. SP said that CWAC and WBC both use Evolutive. The Growth Hub use MS dynamics.  RB explained the profiled spend for the year, confirming at present there looks like there will be a cashflow issue of £10m in 19/20. The LEP is going to try and manage this by bringing project payments back in line with the agreed intervention rates but may need to look at alternative options, such as borrowing money. SP suggested it might be worth talking to Warrington and Co FD in due course. RB said the position will be reviewed in Dec. | RB  RB | End of May  End of May |
| 8 | **ESIF update**  **ERDF**  £60.7m of ERDF available. £62m of funding indicatively committed which takes account of likely slippage.  The establishment of a Urban Development Fund is being considered which would work on the principle of an revolving loan fund. £15m to possibly be allocated. More could be added if there was slippage on other projects.  CH asked if all the ESIF/LGF interventions across the region could be plotted on a map.  ESF  Working on developing a virtual Institute of Technology Model. £22m of projects identified.  The challenge is to develop projects which meet the call.  Rural – funding available for small business grants. | FL | End of June |
| 9 | **AOB**  SP asked if all the papers could be put into one PDF document in future.  SP also suggested that the August meeting may need cancelling due to lack of numbers. RB to check availability and see if items scheduled for approval can be put back to September meeting. | RB  RB | Ongoing  June |