



# Minutes of the Cheshire Science Corridor Enterprise Zone Board

May 2021

<b>Meeting Title</b>	Cheshire Science Corridor Enterprise Zone Board	
<b>Date</b>	20 May 2021	
<b>Time</b>	13:00-15:00	
<b>Location</b>	Microsoft Teams	
<b>Agenda Item</b>		<b>Action/Decision</b>
<b>1.</b>	<p><b>Attendees and apologies</b></p> <p><b>EZ Board Members:</b>            Robert Mee, Chair of EZ Board and LEP Board Member            Peter Broxton, LEP Board Member and Vice Chair of the EZ Board            Cllr Richard Beacham, Cheshire West &amp; Chester Council            Tony Bochenski, Independent Member            Chris Farrow, Independent Member            Nicola Heron, Independent Member            Linda Hilton, Independent Member            Cllr Amanda Stott, Cheshire East Council</p> <p><b>In Attendance:</b>            John Adlen, Cheshire &amp; Warrington LEP            Philip Kerr, Cheshire East Council            Stephen Fitzsimons, Warrington &amp; Co.</p> <p><b>Apologies:</b>            Cllr Russ Bowden, Warrington Borough Council            Philip Cox, Cheshire &amp; Warrington LEP            Loren Jones, LEP Board Member            Katie McConnell, LEP Youth Board Member            Martin Wood, Cities &amp; Growth Unit            Joel Tagg, Cities &amp; Growth Unit</p>	
<b>2.</b>	<p><b>Previous EZ Board minutes</b></p> <p>All matters arising from the previous EZ Board held on 28 January 2021 have been actioned or will be covered in this board.</p>	Minutes agreed and signed off
<b>3.</b>	<p><b>Declarations of interest</b></p> <p>(a) Cllr Amanda Stott and Philip Kerr declared an interest on behalf of Cheshire East Council in Alderley Park</p> <p>(b) Stephen Fitzsimons declared an interest on behalf of Warrington Borough Council in Birchwood Park</p> <p>(c) Chris Farrow declared an interest in sites in Ellesmere Port as Chair of the Ellesmere Port Development Board</p>	

<p>4.</p>	<p><b>Governance</b>  <b>Item 4a) New Chair</b>  Robert Mee will step down as the Chair of the EZ Board at the end of June and Peter Broxton will take over as the new chair of the new Growth Corridors Board which will incorporate the EZ Board.</p> <p><b>Item 4b) Changes in membership</b>  Following the LEP’s recent recruitment of new Board and Sub-Committee members, Annette McDonald has stepped down from the EZ Board to take up a position on the LEP Board and as Chair of the Local Transport Board. Loren Jones will join the new Growth Corridors Board as Vice-Chair and Linda Hilton and Nicola Heron join as independent Board members.</p>	
<p>5.</p>	<p><b>EZ 5-year review</b>  Robert Mee and John Adlen gave a presentation to the Board looking back on the first 5 years of the Enterprise Zone and its key achievements.</p>	
<p>6.</p>	<p><b>a) EZ investment programme update</b>  John Adlen updated the EZ Board on progress of the investment programme:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>Aviator Phase 1</b> – final claim received for £16,325, which means that the total EZ investment was £492,564 lower than anticipated in the business case.</li> <li>▪ <b>Aviator Phase 2</b> – Legal agreement completed in December 2020. The developer expects to start on site within the next 6 months.</li> <li>▪ <b>Blocks 22-24 Alderley Park</b> – MSCP has completed and the conversion of Blocks 22-24 is underway. Blocks 23/24 is expected to complete in March 2022 with Block 22 expected to complete in June 2022. We have commenced discussions with Bruntwood about the next phase of EZ investment in site, which is likely to be a further 100,000 sq ft of laboratory space.</li> <li>▪ <b>Quadrant Phase 2</b> – All five units now fully and an indicative claim figure of £852,152 has been received from Birchwood Park. This is significantly lower than the total investment envelope of £3.6m approved by the EZ Board, largely due to the speed with which the units were let. There is still up to £1m available to Birchwood Park to draw down within the next 2-years for electricity infrastructure if required. Nevertheless, this represents a significant saving on the anticipated investment required from the LEP.</li> <li>▪ <b>Newport Business Park</b> – Gaerwen Properties have completed the purchase of the remainder of the site from CWaC and we are anticipating a business case for EZ investment to develop circa 180,000 sq ft of industrial floorspace in the summer.</li> </ul> <p><b>b) EZ investment cases</b>  No items</p>	

7.	<p><b>Operational update</b></p> <p><b>a) Quarterly monitoring</b></p> <table border="1" data-bbox="288 282 1137 495"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="288 282 799 371">Outputs</th> <th data-bbox="799 282 911 371">Q3 2020/21</th> <th data-bbox="911 282 1023 371">Q4 2020/21</th> <th data-bbox="1023 282 1137 371">Total Outputs to Date</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="288 371 799 405">Number of new businesses started trading</td> <td data-bbox="799 371 911 405">12</td> <td data-bbox="911 371 1023 405">9</td> <td data-bbox="1023 371 1137 405">118</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="288 405 799 439">Number of new jobs</td> <td data-bbox="799 405 911 439">554</td> <td data-bbox="911 405 1023 439">291</td> <td data-bbox="1023 405 1137 439">3,282</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="288 439 799 472">New/refurbished commercial floorspace (sq ft)</td> <td data-bbox="799 439 911 472">-</td> <td data-bbox="911 439 1023 472">-</td> <td data-bbox="1023 439 1137 472">804,279</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="288 472 799 495">Private sector leverage</td> <td data-bbox="799 472 911 495">£5.5m</td> <td data-bbox="911 472 1023 495">£3.8m</td> <td data-bbox="1023 472 1137 495">£155m</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Outputs	Q3 2020/21	Q4 2020/21	Total Outputs to Date	Number of new businesses started trading	12	9	118	Number of new jobs	554	291	3,282	New/refurbished commercial floorspace (sq ft)	-	-	804,279	Private sector leverage	£5.5m	£3.8m	£155m	
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	<p><b>b) Business Rate Discount applications</b></p> <p>The Board ratified the following Business Rate Discount applications:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ AB Sciex UK Ltd</li> <li>▪ Apex Molecular</li> <li>▪ ARNE Clothing</li> <li>▪ BiVictrix Therapeutics</li> <li>▪ Fit2Fly</li> <li>▪ Instil Bio</li> <li>▪ Kinomica</li> <li>▪ Matrix Healthcare Solutions</li> <li>▪ MedChemica</li> <li>▪ Monevo</li> <li>▪ New Red Planet</li> <li>▪ Peak Proteins</li> <li>▪ Quint Group</li> <li>▪ Regulatory Science Associates</li> <li>▪ RTC Direct</li> <li>▪ Stream Bio</li> <li>▪ Venn Digital</li> </ul> <p>It was noted that the Business Rate Discount incentive closed to new businesses locating in the Enterprise Zone after 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021.</p>																					
8.	<p><b>Marketing and communications</b></p> <p>No items</p>																					
9.	<p><b>Finance update</b></p> <p>No items</p>																					
10.	<p><b>AOB</b></p> <p>Peter Broxton, as incoming Chair thanked Robert Mee for his hard work and commitment to the Enterprise Zone Board over the last 5 years, which was echoed by the Board members.</p> <p>There being no other business, the Chair thanked everyone for their attendance and closed the meeting.</p>																					