
Summary of decisions taken at a meeting of the SELEP Accountability Board, held in High House Production Park Vellacott Close, Purfleet, Essex, RM19 1RJ on Friday, 27 April 2018

Published on Friday 27th April 2018. Provided a decision has not been called in by close of business on Wednesday 2nd May 2018 it can then be implemented.

Please note that this is a summary of decisions taken at the meeting only. A full account of proceedings will appear in the minutes of the meeting which will be published on the Council's website by Wednesday 16th May 2018.

Enquiries to Lisa Siggins, 033301 34594, lisa.siggins@essex.gov.uk

Present:

Geoff Miles	Chairman
Cllr Gagan Mohindra	Essex County Council
Cllr Paul Carter	Kent County Council
Cllr Rodney Chambers	Medway Council
Cllr Rupert Simmons	East Sussex County Council
Cllr Rob Gledhill	Thurrock Council
Cllr James Courtenay	Southend Borough Council
Audrey Songhurst	Higher Education representative

1 Welcome and Apologies for Absence

The following apologies were received:

- Councillor Kevin Bentley (substituted by Councillor Gagan Mohindra as a non-voting observer)
- Councillor Keith Glazier (substituted by Councillor Rupert Simmons)
- Councillor John Lamb (substituted by Councillor James Courtenay)
- Lucy Druesne (substituted by Audrey Songhurst)
- Angela O'Donoghue

2 Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on Friday, 16th March 2018 were agreed as an accurate record and were signed by the Chairman.

3 Declarations of Interest

Councillor Rodney Chambers declared a non-pecuniary interest item 9 on the agenda which concerned the Historic Dockyard Chatham, as he is a trustee thereof. He would not therefore participate in the discussion and would not vote on this particular item.

4 Questions from the Public

There were no public questions.

5 Dartford Town Centre Improvements LGF Funding Decision

The Accountability Board (the Board) received a report from Rhiannon Mort and a presentation from Steer Davies Gleave, the purpose of which was to make the Board aware of the value for money assessment for the Dartford Town Centre Improvements (the Project) which has been through the Independent Technical Evaluator (ITE) review process, to enable £4.3m Local Growth Fund (LGF) to be devolved to Kent County Council.

Resolved:

Option 1: To approve the award of £4.3m LGF to support the delivery of the Project identified in the Business Case and which has been assessed as presenting high value for money with low certainty of achieving this.

6 A414 Pinch Point Package Funding Award

The Board received a report from Rhiannon Mort and a presentation from Steer Davies Gleave, the purpose of which was for the Board to consider the award of an additional £487,000 to the A414 Pinch Point Package (the Project).

Resolved:

1. **Option A - To Approve** the award of an additional £487,000 LGF to support the completion of the Project which has been assessed as presenting high value for money with medium to high certainty of achieving this.
2. **To Note** that the Change Request has not been considered by Essex Business Board

7 Harlow Advanced Manufacturing and Engineering Centre (HAMEC) skills capital round one underspend utilisation

The Board received a report from Louise Aitken, and a presentation from Steer Davies Gleave, the purpose of which was to seek Board approval for the award of £234,815 of Local Growth Fund (LGF) Capital Grant to Harlow College to purchase specialist equipment supporting the Harlow Advanced Manufacturing and Engineering Centre (HAMEC) (the Project).

Resolved:

To Approve the award of £234,815 LGF to Harlow College for specialist equipment which has been assessed as providing high value for money with high certainty. This is subject to confirmation that match funding is secured.

8 Rochester Airport LGF Progress Update Report

Mr McLennan, a member of the public, was present and advised the Board that he would be taking a video recording of the Board's consideration of this particular item. He was unable at this stage to clarify the exact intention of his use of the recording.

The Board received a report from Helen Dyer, Senior LGF Programme Co-ordinator, Medway Council, Lucy Carpenter, Principal Regeneration Project Officer, Medway Council and Janet Elliott, Regeneration Programme Manager, Medway Council which was presented by Rhiannon Mort. The purpose of which was to make the Board aware of the latest progress on the Rochester Airport project phases 1 and 2 (the Project). The funding award of £4.4m Local Growth Fund (LGF) for phase 1 of the Project was approved by the Board on 10th June 2016.

Resolved:

To defer any decision regarding this matter until the next meeting of the Board on Friday 15th June.

9 Growing Places Fund award to the Fitted Rigging House

The Board received a report from Rhiannon Mort and a presentation from Steer Davies Gleave, the purpose of which was for the Board to consider the award of a £800,000 Growing Places Fund (GPF) Loan to the Fitted Rigging House Project (the Project).

Resolved:

To Approve the award of £800,000 GPF by way of a loan to enable the delivery of the Project and which has been assessed as presenting high value for money and high certainty of achieving this, on the basis that it will be repaid by 31st March 2022.

10 Assurance Framework Implementation Update

The Board received a report from Adam Bryan and Amy Beckett, the purpose of which was to make the Board aware of:

1. The progress which has been made by the South East Local Enterprise Partnership (SELEP) team and the federal areas in implementing the changes necessitated by the refreshed Assurance Framework. *The Board is reminded that it is accountable for assuring that all requirements are implemented; it is a condition of the funding that the Assurance Framework is being implemented.*

2. The findings of the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) Deep Dive process and recommendations made to SELEP.

3. The proposed Governance and Transparency Performance Indicators as set out in Appendix 6 of the report.

Resolved:

- 1 **To Note** the progress to date in implementing the SELEP 2018/19 Assurance Framework.

- 2 **To Note** the SELEP team and federated area progress to implement the:
 - 2.1. Mary Ney recommendations; and
 - 2.2. Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) Deep Dive recommendations.

11 Provisional Revenue Outturn 2017-18

The Board received a report from Suzanne Bennett, the purpose of which was to inform the Board of the provisional outturn position of the South East LEP revenue spending for financial year ended 31st March 2018. This position is provisional as the accounts will be subjected to external audit scrutiny and may be changed. The spending in year was less than the income received and as a result a recommendation for approval of a contribution to the General Reserve is made.

Resolved:

1. **To Approve** the final provisional outturn for the South East LEP revenue budgets for 2017/18 at Tables 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 and 9 of the report;

To Approve the contribution of **£127,125** to General Reserves;

12 Date of Next Meeting

The Board noted that the next meeting will take place on Friday 15th June 2018 at

High House Production Park.

There being no urgent business the meeting closed at 11.55 am.

Chairman