
Summary of decisions taken at a meeting of the SELEP Accountability Board, held at High House Production Park Vellacott Close, Purfleet, Essex, RM19 1RJ on Friday 31 March 2017

Published on Friday 31 March 2017. Provided a decision has not been called in by close of play on Wednesday 5 April 2017 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 Tuesday 18 April 2017.

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Present:

| | |
|----------------------|---------------------------------|
| Geoff Miles | Chairman |
| Cllr Graham Butland | Essex County Council |
| Cllr Paul Carter | Kent County Council |
| Cllr Rodney Chambers | Medway Council |
| Cllr Keith Glazier | East Sussex County Council |
| Cllr Rob Gledhill | Thurrock Council |
| Cllr John Lamb | Southend Borough Council |
| Angela O'Donoghue | FE & Skills (FEDEC) |
| Myroulla West | Higher Education representative |

1 Welcome and Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Councillor Kevin Bentley. Councillor Graham Butland was acting as his substitute at the meeting.

2 Minutes

The Minutes of the meeting held on 24 February 2017 were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

3 Declarations of Interest

None were made.

4 A13 Widening LGF award

The Accountability Board (the Board) received a report from Rhiannon Mort and a presentation from Steer Davies Gleave, the purpose of which was to seek Board approval for the award of Local Growth Fund (LGF) to the A13 Widening project (the Project) in Thurrock, subject to Government Minister Approval.

Resolved

To Approve the award of £66.1million LGF to the A13 Widening to support the delivery of the Project, as set out in the Business Case, subject to Central

Government Minister Approval.

5 Devonshire Park LGF funding decision

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 Devonshire Park Business Case which has been through the Independent Technical Evaluator (ITE) process to enable £5m funding to be devolved to East Sussex County Council for scheme delivery.

Resolved

To Approve the allocation of £5m LGF to Devonshire Park Quarter Re-development Project to support the delivery of the Project identified in the Business Case and which has been assessed as presenting achieving high value for money with a medium to high certainty of achieving this.

6 Kent Sustainable Interventions Programme LGF funding decision

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 Kent Sustainable Interventions Project which has been through the Independent Technical Evaluator (ITE) process to enable £500,000 Local Growth Fund (LGF) to be devolved to Kent County Council for scheme delivery.

Resolved

To Approve the allocation of £500,000 LGF to Kent Sustainable Interventions Project to support the delivery of the Project identified in the Business Case and which has been assessed as presenting achieving high value for money with low to medium certainty of achieving this.

7 Capital Programme Management of the Local Growth Fund

The Board received a report and presentation from Rhiannon Mort providing an update on the latest position of the Local Growth Fund (LGF) Capital Programme, as part of SELEP's Growth Deal with Government.

Resolved

1. To Agree the total LGF slippage from 2016/17 to 2017/18 of £19.078m (excluding Department for Transport retained schemes), as follows (see Appendix 1 for project breakdown):

1.1 £7.736m net slippage for projects in East Sussex

1.2 £2.356m net slippage for projects in Essex

1.3 £4.843m net slippage for projects in Kent

1.4 £1.133m net slippage for projects in Medway

1.5 £0.200m net slippage for projects in Southend

1.6 £5.215m net slippage for projects in Thurrock

1.7 £0.065m net slippage for Capital Skills projects

2. **To Agree** the total LGF slippage from 2016/17 to 2017/18 of £0.973m net slippage for Department for Transport retained schemes (see Appendix 1 for project breakdown)

3. **To Approve** the acceleration of LGF spend in 2016/17 for:

3.1 Strood Town Centre Journey Time Improvements by £0.520m; and

3.2 Medway Cycle Action Plan by £0.150m.

4 **To Agree** the proposed measures to mitigate LGF slippage, as set out in Table 3

5 **To Agree** the use of Option 4 and 5 mitigation (as set out in section 4 of the report) for any further slippages of LGF spend which occur to the end of 2016/17.

6 **To Agree** the planned LGF spend in 2017/18 of £115.179m excluding DfT retained schemes and £145.943m, including retained scheme, subject to SELEP receiving sufficient funding from Government in 2017/18 as per the amount indicated in the provisional funding profile, set out in Table 4.

7 **To Note** the planned LGF spend for future years of the LGF programme, as set out in Appendix 2.

8 **To Approve** the combining of the Hastings and Bexhill Junction Capacity Improvement Package and Hastings and Bexhill Walking and Cycling Package, to become the Hastings and Bexhill Movement and Access Package.

8 Skills Capital Programme Update

The Board received a report from Louise Aitken providing an update on the latest position of the Skills Capital Programme, further to the update provided in February and to seek approval for slippage to the next financial year.

Resolved

1 **To Note** the updated spend forecast for 2016/17;

2. **To Note** the project delivery and risk assessment, as set out in paragraph 5;

3. **To Note** the progress of Employability and Skills business cases within Local Growth Deal Round 3, as set out in paragraph 3.6.

4. **To Approve** the slippage of funds as set out in paragraph 5, to the next financial year in the event that any college is not able to fully spend their grant allocation but has clear commitments in place to do so

5. **To Approve** slippage of the remaining uncommitted skills funding at 31st March 2017, up to a maximum of £79,900, to the next financial year for South Downs College, Refurbishment of Laboratory space project, (subject to the approval of the Board of a full Business Case in May 2017).

9 Growing Places Fund update

The Board received a report from Rhiannon Mort providing an update on the

latest position of the Growing Places Fund (GPF) Capital Programme.

Resolved

1 **To note** the updated position on the Growing Places Fund programme.

2 **To Approve** the amended Growing Places Fund loan repayment schedule for the following projects in East Sussex, namely;

2.1 North Queensway; and

2.2 Priory Quarter

10 Finance Update – SELEP Core Budget

The Board received a report from Suzanne Bennett which presented the Secretariat budget for 2017/18 for approval.

Resolved

To approve the SELEP Secretariat revenue budget as at Table 1 of the report

11 Assurance Framework Implementation Update

The Board received a report from Adam Bryan, the purpose of which was to make them aware of progress made by the SELEP executive team and the federal areas in implementing the changes necessitated by the refreshed Assurance Framework. This follows on from the presentation provided to the SELEP Strategic Board on 3rd March 2017.

Resolved

1 **To note** both progress to date and that progress reports will be prepared for the following Board meetings until such point as the changes are fully implemented. 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 **To approve** that the Board papers, minutes and Forward Plan, as defined in paragraph 3.2.1 of the report is made available on partner websites; and

3 **To recommend** for ratification at the next Strategic Board that any paid Strategic Board member expenses are made publically available, via the website.

12 Date of Next Meeting

The Board noted that the next meeting will take place on Friday 26 May 2017.

There being no urgent business the meeting closed at 11 am.

Chairman