



SOUTH EAST
LOCAL ENTERPRISE
PARTNERSHIP

The LEP Review 2021: Update to SELEP Ltd Board Directors

- Government are undertaking to **evolve the form and function of LEPs** as they determine how best to support recovery, productivity, growth and business resilience
- Expectation that evolved LEPs will be **even more business-led**
- Lead Minister is **Paul Scully**
- New operating model to be at least partly in place by **April 2022**
- **Significant change** anticipated for the operation of SELEP as we move to establish a refreshed focus without a capital programme underpinning it
- The ToR for the review indicates fundamental questions to be addressed around:

Objectives	Representation
Functions	Relationship with local government
Form	People implications
Departmental ownership	Funding
Geography	Implementation



Three key functions

- Government officials have identified three key functions for LEPs:
 1. To deliver a programme of joined-up, expert and tailored business advice and support for local businesses
 2. To identify key local sectors and industries, and to design and deliver interventions to make them more competitive, making the most of local opportunities
 3. To provide place-based economic expertise and insight to central and local government
- We will need to ensure that this translates into activities across our area which add value to local activity whilst working within an even tighter funding envelope



- Formal working groups between LEP Network and CLGU have been formed. Each will take a proposition from officials and work to develop the proposition to a mutually satisfactory conclusion. Together, the propositions will form the recommendation to the Minister. Working groups as follows:

1. Objectives and Functions
2. Geography
3. Accountability*
4. Representation and Interaction with Local Government
5. Implementation and Funding Models**
6. Engagement & Communications

* SELEP COO Suzanne Bennett included in the group

** SELEP Chair Chris Brodie is chairing the group

- There are 9 invitation-only regional roundtables with stakeholders in early May. The South East roundtable is on 6th May.
- Overall aim is to supply the Minister with the recommendations by end July.



- The **national process is ongoing** and we will update the Board with available information when we are enabled to do so
- The SELEP CEO is currently developing **ideas for the future focus of the SELEP team**, taking into account the development of the Review process as it is understood and is also engaged in in-depth work with SELEP COO on scenario planning
- The SELEP Chair will report the latest available information to the **June Strategic Board** and to Federated Boards as required locally
- If the Review has progressed sufficiently, we will have an exploratory discussion around **future focus at the June Strategic Board** along the lines of what the LEP should keep doing, stop doing, or do more of
- As it stands, we expect to be able to report a **transition plan to the October Strategic Board**
- Some or all implementation will have taken place by **1st April 2022**