

Meeting Minutes



Meeting
Date and Time
Venue

OSE Board
10th March 2021, 14:00
Microsoft Teams Meeting

Attendees

Cllr Tony Ball	Essex County Council
David Barnes	Basildon Business Group
Murray Foster	Southend Business Partnership
Chris Lines	Leonardo
Perry Glading	Glading Consultancy, High House Production (Chair)
Cllr Rob Gledhill	Thurrock Council
Lucy-Emma Harris	Pixelwork
Cllr Chris Hossack	Brentwood Council
Glyn Jones	Southend Airport
Cllr Aidan McGurran	Basildon Council
David O'Connell	DBD Communications
Angela O'Donoghue	South Essex College
Geoff Pearce	Swan Housing
Cllr Kevin Robinson	Southend Council
John Rowe	
Rob Singh	University of Essex
Nicholas Smith	Cantel Ltd
Caroline Southgate	Doris Jones

Apologies

Colette Bailey	Metal
Mark Curle	Henderson Curle
Aideen Sadler	City Fibre
Cllr Norman Smith	Castle Point Borough Council
Cllr Simon Wootton	Rochford Council

Officers/Observers/Presenters

Ben Ackroyd	C2C
Adam Bryan	South East LEP
Lyn Carpenter	Thurrock Council
Mark Doran	Essex County Council
Laurie Edmonds	Brentwood Council
Gilli Galloway	EELGA
Angela Hutchings	Rochford Council
Tomasz Kozlowski	Basildon Council
Andy Lewis	Southend Council
Ian Lewis	Opportunity South Essex
Emma Lindsell	Southend Council
Gerard McCleave	Thurrock Council
Steve Rosevear	Hatch
Jim Sims	Basildon Council
Tristan Smith	Essex County Council
Jonathan Stevenson	Brentwood Council
David Sturgess	ASELA
Stephen Taylor	Thurrock Council
Martin Whiteley	ASELA

Meeting Minutes

Agenda Item	Notes –	Actions
1	Welcome and Introduction	
1.1	Chair opened the meeting	
2	Declarations of Interest	
2.1	The following Declarations were made: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Angela O'Donoghue – South Essex Higher Education item 	
3	Minutes of last Meeting	
3.1	Minutes from the Full Board meeting on the 2 nd December and the Private Sector meeting on the 3 rd February were both approved	
4	Action Tracker	
4.1	Confirmed that the Thames Freeport proposal had been endorsed by Government. The concerned discussed with Basildon around the risk of displacement was raised and the Board asked to highlight issues so we can collate concerns.	All Board Members
5	Directors Report including Programme Update	
5.1	IL thanked the Board for their feedback on the Carbon Offsetting Sector Support Fund application. We will take this feedback forward to the SELEP Strategic Board on the 19 th March. Comments have been fed back to the project promoters.	PG & AS
5.2	The Board confirmed that the Chair of the Basildon Business Group and the Chair of the Southend Business Partnership will be co-opted members of the OSE Board for a further 12 months	
5.3	The Board noted the budget position for OSE. The Chair indicated that discussions were ongoing in relation to claiming part of the Executive Directors time back from the Thames Estuary Growth Board. The Chair also confirmed that OSE would be the priority for the Director.	
6	Review of Priorities	
6.1	The Board noted the report, and reflected on the points raised through the following items	
7	C2C Presentation	
7.1	The Board received a presentation from Ben Ackroyd, Managing Director of C2C. Slides have been circulated to attendees.	

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7.2	Board Members raised the following points and questions:	
7.2.1	Co-ordination of trains with buses – become more of a challenge with service pattern changes and social distancing, but Board invited to highlight any particular issues	Board asked to identify issues with co-ordination
7.2.2	Students returning to Campus – staged return underway, with staggered start/finish times but need to co-ordinate and keep updated. Likely to return to more usual attendance in April. Teachers get free tickets if they chaperone students and ensure mask wearing/social distancing.	AO'D to keep in contact with C2C
7.2.3	Links with Transport East highlighted, ahead of consultation on strategy in summer 2019	PG/IL to introduce
7.2.4	Freeports – we need to provide a link given implications for passenger movements, opportunities for stations and the electrification of routes into ports	PG/IL to introduce
7.2.5	C2C Wish to establish links to Southend Airport	GJ to follow up
7.3	The Board thanked Ben for his presentation and wish to continue engagement	
8	South Essex Higher Education	
81	Dr Stephen Rosevear from Hatch presented the report. The report was commissioned by ASELA and has not yet been signed off by ASELA, so is not a formal position. Slides have been circulated to attendees.	
8.2	Board Members raised the following points and questions:	
8.2.1	Can skills curriculum be set locally – yes, with scope limited at first but broadening out for future years. Limited scope for steering immediate delivery, but can start the process for designing new curriculum for future years. However, important to do what we can within the current environment to establish direction/momentum	
8.2.2	Slide on Social Mobility is interesting given disparities in performance within South Essex. Full report will give further background on this	
8.2.3	Can we be certain of where we are in the economic cycle and what do we need to futureproof – Model is flexible and starts small, so therefore flexible and lower risk. Build stage by stage with employers. What we are currently experiencing is beyond the scope of usual economic cycles and more transformative with a number of windows of opportunity – update of electric vehicles, focus on green	

Agenda Item	Notes –	Actions
	growth for example. Opportunity for South Essex to align with these	
8.2.4	Subject areas and disciplines – need to move away from sectors and look more closely at what people do. For example, artificial intelligence is what a person would work in, but can apply in many different sectors. Skills are more important than the sector, especially so in deploying learning within a workplace	
8.2.5	The employer led model needs to drive inclusivity with an expectation of outreach activity with local schools. Vital that the progression routes are exposed, and career possibilities explained	
8.2.6	Need to recognise that entry requirements can be a challenge for some, and perceptions of apprenticeships. Need to work to change these.	
8.3	The Board were very supportive of the work undertaken and keen to see momentum maintained on this important project.	
9	South East Local Enterprise Partnership Update	
9.1	<p>Key items for update are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There will be a review of the future role of LEPs taking place during 2021. Recent announcements have confirmed that major funds will be delivered by local authorities, but this enables the focus of LEPs to be reconsidered • SELEP Board will be reviewing the Recovery and Renewal Strategy at the Board meeting on the 19th March. This will give the LEP a policy base for future decision making • The priority for the coming 12 months will be to ensure that the final year of the Local Growth Fund and the Getting Building Fund are delivered and spent in full • Covid Recovery work packages – the procurement process is nearing completion and there should be announcements shortly • Delivery model for the Growth Hubs is being reviewed with LEPs nationally, and will shape their future role and focus. • The SELEP skills website is now available and is a single place for information and data for the LEP area. Link: Home - South East Skills 	
10	Essex County Council Update	
9.1	The Board received a presentation from Mark Doran, Director of Sustainable Growth at Essex County Council. The Board were asked for their comments on the presentation	

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11	ASELA Update	
11.1	The Board received a presentation from the ASELA team, which focussed on the South Essex Estuary park proposal. The following comments were made in discussion	
11.1.1	The Board welcomed the presentation and were very positive about the park proposals	
11.1.2	Proposal to have access to green space within 300m of all homes in South Essex is an ambitious one, especially in the more densely populated areas, but a great ambition	
11.1.3	Project needs to both open up new green space and improving existing sites and facilities	
11.1.4	Question over how this will be delivered and co-ordinated.	
11.1.5	This is placemaking on a large scale and shows how the ASELA local authorities can work together with a single purpose. There are opportunities for carbon offsetting which could unlock funding opportunities. In addition, planning contributions, major projects and other sources of funding would become available. However, need to recognise this is a long term project	
11.1.6	Focus on the South Essex marshes is very welcome. This could become a real selling point for South Essex and an opportunity to sit alongside a green recovery	
11.1.7	This will also play a big role in growth by having an attractive and accessible natural resource. This will help South Essex to become a great place to work and live.	
11.2	A specific meeting will be scheduled to enable ASELA to cover more fully their areas of work	IL to organise
	Closing Remarks	
	The chair thanked the presenters for their contribution to the meeting, and the Board for their input throughout. The chair also recognised the ongoing and invaluable support that Local Authorities are providing to the business community, with hopefully a route out of the restrictions becoming clearer.	

Next Meeting

19th May 2021, 2pm. Details TBC – likely to be virtual.