

# Summary of Decisions of the Strategic Board meeting:

## 13<sup>th</sup> October 2023

### Attendees:

Sarah Dance	Chair
Simon Cook	Deputy Chair
Helen Russell	CEO
Carol Ford	Kent and Medway Economic Partnership
Cllr Christine Bayliss	District/Borough/City Councils representative
Liz Gibney	Kent and Medway Economic Partnership
Cllr Keith Glazier	East Sussex County Council
Cllr Kevin Bentley	Essex County Council
Cllr John Lamb	Southend City Council
Cllr Lauren Edwards	Medway Council
Cllr Clair Bell	Kent County Council
Gregory Wilkinson	DLUHC
David Sheppard	Team East Sussex
Clive Soper	Team East Sussex
Prof. Karen Cox	Higher Education Representative
Lara Fox	Success Essex
Penny Shimmin	Social Enterprise Representative
Perry Glading	Opportunity South Essex
Mark Curle	Opportunity South Essex
Vince Lucas	Kent and Medway Economic Partnership
Ana Christie	Team East Sussex
Andrew Metcalf	Kent and Medway Economic Partnership
David Milham	Kent and Medway Economic Partnership

### Other Attendees:

Michael Neumann	Essex County Council (s151)	Jo Simmons	SELEP Secretariat
Zoe Gordon	SELEP Secretariat	Line Bannister	Essex Legal Services
Vivien Prigg	SELEP Secretariat	Lorna Norris	Essex County Council
Dave Evans	East Sussex County Council	Louise Aitken	SELEP Secretariat
Helen Dyer	SELEP Secretariat	Tim Rignall	Southend City Council
Brian Horton	SELEP Secretariat	Paul Chapman	Essex County Council
Howard Davies	SELEP Secretariat	Tristan Smith	Essex County Council
Sunny Ee	Medway Council	David Smith	Kent County Council
Jessica Jagpal	Medway Council	Sharon Spicer	SELEP Secretariat
Ian Lewis	OSE	Steve Samson	Kent County Council
Richard Dawson	East Sussex County Council	Gary Crooks	
Alex Riley	SELEP Secretariat	Kate Boran	

*This meeting was held online via Zoom.*

**Item 1: Welcome and apologies for absence**

**Apologies:** Cllr Roger Gough (Kent County Council) – substituted by Cllr Clair Bell – Cabinet Member for Communities, Cllr Tony Cox (Southend-on -Sea City Council) – substituted by Cllr John Lamb, Jo James (Kent and Medway Economic Partnership) – substituted by Andrew Metcalf.

**Item 2: Minutes of last meeting, declarations of interest**

- 2.1. The Board agreed the minutes of the last meeting as an accurate record.
- 2.2. No interests were declared.

**Item 3: Draft SELEP Integration Plan and LA's update**

- 3.1. Helen Russell presented to the Board.

**Resolved:**

- 3.2. **To Agree** the draft SELEP Integration Plan and its development into a final Integration Plan by December 2023.
- 3.3. **To Note** the risks and dependencies highlighted in this paper and the Integration Plan.

**Item 4: Options for use of GPF Funding**

- 4.1. Helen Dyer presented to the Board.

**Resolved:**

- 4.2. **To Agree** to endorse the following option for deployment of the available Growing Places Fund funding:  
**Option 2 a)** Disaggregate the fund to each Upper Tier Local Authority as a total of their existing GPF loan allocations and their proportion of the funding currently held by the Accountable Body (as exemplified in Tables 3 and 4) and accept that total parity has not been achieved.

**Item 5: CV19 Recovery Fund Evaluation Highlights**

- 5.1 Jo Simmons and Louise Aitken presented to the Board.

**Item 6: Growth Hub Update**

- 6.1 Jo Simmons presented to the Board.

**Resolved:**

- 6.2 **To Note** the successful reinstatement of the BEST Growth Hub service and SELEP-wide service delivery for 2023/24.
- 6.3 **To Note** the ongoing risk to service continuity resulting from the annual funding cycle.

**7. AOB & Close**

7.1 No Other Business.

7.2 Date of next meeting is 8 December in person, location to be confirmed.

7.3 Sarah Dance closed the meeting and reminded the Board of the AGM commencing at 12:00.