



**MINUTES OF WORCESTERSHIRE LOCAL ENTERPRISE PARTNERSHIP
ADDITIONAL BOARD MEETING**

**Thursday, 29 August 2013 at 10.00
Yamazaki Mazak Ltd, Worcester WR4 9NF**

<p>1.</p>	<p><u>Welcome and Apologies</u></p> <p>PRESENT:</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>Peter Pawsey (Chair)</td> <td>(PP)</td> <td>Chairman Robert West and Director Midland Heart</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Dean Attwell</td> <td>(DA)</td> <td>MD Oakland International</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Cllr Simon Geraghty</td> <td>(SG)</td> <td>Deputy Leader Worcestershire County Council</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Cllr John Campion</td> <td>(JC)</td> <td>Leader, Wyre Forest District Council</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Ed Webb</td> <td>(EW)</td> <td>Executive Chairman Webbs of Wychbold</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Cllr David Hughes</td> <td>(DH)</td> <td>Leader, Malvern Hills District Council</td> </tr> <tr> <td>John Callaghan</td> <td>(JCal)</td> <td>Principal, North East Worcestershire College</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Carl Arntzen</td> <td>(CA)</td> <td>MD Worcester Bosch Thermotechnology</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Alan White</td> <td>(AW)</td> <td>MD Malvern Hills Science Park</td> </tr> </table> <p>IN ATTENDANCE:</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>Gary Woodman</td> <td>(GW)</td> <td>Worcestershire LEP</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Claire Bridges</td> <td>(CB)</td> <td>Worcestershire LEP</td> </tr> <tr> <td>John Hobbs</td> <td>(JH)</td> <td>Worcestershire County Council</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Graham Russell</td> <td>(GR)</td> <td>AMION Consulting</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Mattias Wihlborg</td> <td>(MW)</td> <td>GHK International Consulting</td> </tr> </table>	Peter Pawsey (Chair)	(PP)	Chairman Robert West and Director Midland Heart	Dean Attwell	(DA)	MD Oakland International	Cllr Simon Geraghty	(SG)	Deputy Leader Worcestershire County Council	Cllr John Campion	(JC)	Leader, Wyre Forest District Council	Ed Webb	(EW)	Executive Chairman Webbs of Wychbold	Cllr David Hughes	(DH)	Leader, Malvern Hills District Council	John Callaghan	(JCal)	Principal, North East Worcestershire College	Carl Arntzen	(CA)	MD Worcester Bosch Thermotechnology	Alan White	(AW)	MD Malvern Hills Science Park	Gary Woodman	(GW)	Worcestershire LEP	Claire Bridges	(CB)	Worcestershire LEP	John Hobbs	(JH)	Worcestershire County Council	Graham Russell	(GR)	AMION Consulting	Mattias Wihlborg	(MW)	GHK International Consulting	
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<p>2.</p>	<p><u>Strategic Economic Plan and EU Investment Plan</u></p> <p>Peter Pawsey introduced the progress that had been made during August and the need for the Board to take decisions to set the strategic direction. We are in a competitive process which is also a negotiation with government therefore it is important to get a solid evidence base, an ambitious vision and show we have the capability to deliver.</p> <p>Gary Woodman introduced the work of AMION and explained that the recent feedback from workshops in London had indicated that we were progressing well. The workload is high and timeline remains tight for the first draft of the EU investment plan (7th October submission date). We are engaging well with a network of partners and with Claire Bridges support we are gaining as much feedback as possible. BIS local have commented on our timeline/plan which continues to be updated and acts as a guide to delivery.</p>																																											
<p>3.</p>	<p>AMION presentation:</p> <p>GR distributed the full AMION report on the WLEP's position, highlighting the SWOT analysis below:</p> <p>Strengths:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Large business base (but lifestyle) • Key sectors identified 																																											

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Low unemployment/high employability • Central strategic location <p>Weaknesses:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Low GVA growth /productivity • Pocket of deprivation • Limited broadband up take • Public sector cuts impact <p>Opportunities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Smart programme of support, supply chains • University of Worcester • Game changers R1 and R2 • new financial model <p>Threats:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Under performance of specific sectors - services • Supply of labour - decline in working age population • Need to ensure supply of sites is brought forward • Out-migration of younger cohorts <p>The full AMION report was distributed to the Board members.</p>	
<p>4.</p>	<p><u>EU Strategy</u></p> <p>The profile spend of the allocation and % of minimum spend across the thematic areas and the opt-in issues were explained to the Board.</p> <p>The Board considered the ambitious objectives working on the GVA up lift. It was agreed that the Board wishes to pursue smart efficient growth. However the Board recognised that this only answered the question of 'What?' the WLEP wanted to achieve. Partners buy-in and alignment were key to delivering the 'How?'.</p> <p>AMION to present these options into a table for comparative purposes with WM/England.</p> <p>This decision had consequences for the partners and this needs to be explored further.</p> <p>The Board recognised the new WLEP structure diagram - hence the 4 Strategic Objectives remain clear and focused with the addition of sector development work. Other sectors of IT, medical, logistics are being explored.</p> <p>Cross cutting themes are better represented by changing sustainability to environment. The Board agreed this structure.</p> <p>The emerging spatial plan was agreed by the Board.</p> <p>Progress on the action plan template was with partners. A session with GBS LEP was booked for mid September plus other WM workshops.</p> <p>Governance was discussed and clarity of role and responsibilities of Board members, plus the status of the WLEP and the accountable body.</p> <p>Delivery capability would be explored with partners.</p> <p>Asks of Government need to be developed with further thought and conversations with BIS/DCIS/DWP/DEFRA and Cabinet Office.</p>	<p>Amion</p>

	<p>It was agreed that there would be a presumption of opt-in unless a partner could provide good reason as to why not. It was recognised that the social housing opt-in decision and implications may take us beyond the 7th October. Also more information might be required to have a focused opt-in.</p> <p>Remaining Opt-in Budget - AMION to complete.</p> <p>Partners had been asked to provide existing information on current programmes. It was agreed that some of these programmes would be continued.</p> <p>Distribution of funds was agreed in line with the national policy split.</p>	<p>GW</p> <p>Amion</p>
<p>5.</p>	<p><u>Community Lead Programme.</u> It was agreed to investigate further with partners before a formal decision would be taken.</p>	
<p>6.</p>	<p><u>Executive Team Capacity</u> Peter Pawsey then presented the Board with an option regarding additional staffing to support LEP Executive Team and the enhancement of the operations manager role.</p>	<p>CB</p>
	<p>It was agreed that a paper would be presented to the QUAD. An important factor would be the role and remit of each staff member and the linkage into partners to ensure engagement with stakeholders into the EU strategy and growth Plan.</p>	<p>GW</p>