

MINUTES OF WLEP BOARD MEETING

**Thursday, 21st May 2015 3.00pm – 5.00pm
Coomber Electronics, Worcester**

Mark Stansfeld	(MS)	Non-Executive Chair
Carl Arntzen	(KA)	Managing Director, Worcester Bosch Group
Chris Walklett	(CW)	Partner, Bishop Fleming
Cllr Margaret Sherrey	(MS)	Leader, Bromsgrove DC (rep Northern DCs)
Roy Irish	(RI)	Director, Financial Partnership & Support Limited (attending in place of Simon Murphy as Richard Quallington was unable to attend)
Cllr Simon Geraghty	(SG)	Deputy Leader, Worcestershire County Council
Dr Chris O'Malley	(DG)	Pro Vice Chancellor, University of Worcester
Nick Baldwin	(NB)	Chairman, Office for Nuclear Regulation
Stuart Laverick	(SL)	Principal & Chief Executive, Heart of Worcester College
Rowena Innocent	(Rol)	Engineering Director, Malvern Instruments (attending in place of Mark Martin)

Observers:

Cllr Linda Robinson	(LR)	Leader of Wychavon DC
Cllr Phil Grove	(PG)	Leader of Malvern DC

IN ATTENDANCE:

Gary Woodman	(GW)	Worcestershire LEP
Ian Edwards	(IE)	Worcestershire LEP
Claire Bridges	(CB)	Worcestershire LEP
Kirsten Dally	(KD)	Worcestershire LEP
Diane Dwyers	(WS)	Worcestershire LEP (Note Taker)
David Blake	(DB)	Acting Corporate Director for Place, Worcester City Council
Graham Pendlebury	(GP)	DFT, LEP Senior Sponsor
Sander Kristel	(SC)	Director of Commercial & Change, WCC
Graham Biggs	(GB)	Client Services Director, The Naked Creative

APOLOGIES:

Dr Simon Murphy	(SM)	Chair, Sandwell Local Improvement Finance Trust Co Ltd
David Green	(DG)	CEO & Vice Chancellor, University of Worcester

1	<u>Welcome and Apologies</u>	ACTION
	<p>Mark Stansfeld (Chair) welcomed the Board and he noted that there were apologies from Simon Murphy and David Green.</p> <p>Mark Martin and Steve Borwell-Fox were voted in as Business Board Chair and Vice Chair. This was approved by the Board.</p> <p>David Hughes was not re-elected as a councillor and therefore a letter has been sent thanking him for his contribution.</p> <p>MS welcomed Cllrs Robinson and Grove as observers.</p>	

<p>2</p>	<p><u>Minutes from the Board Meeting 2nd April 2015</u></p> <p>Minor amendment to Item 12:</p> <p>SM had raised the Connecting Schools and Businesses project with an advisor to the Shadow Chancellor Ed Balls. This was in part to continue to make the case for smaller sized LEPs and their capacity to deliver innovation".</p> <p>The minutes were then approved and signed off as a true record by the Board.</p>	<p>ACTION</p>
<p>3</p> <p>3.1</p> <p>3.2</p> <p>3.3</p>	<p><u>Matters Arising</u></p> <p>Worcestershire Business Central was progressing well with a number of work streams taking place. A report to a future Board will be made.</p> <p>Dashboard and Assurance Framework will be put on a secure web for board members to access. This should be in place by the end of June 2015.</p> <p>Midlands Connect - further details are being sought before a decision can be made.</p> <p><u>Correspondence:</u></p> <p>Correspondence was noted.</p>	<p>G Woodman</p>
<p>4</p> <p>4.1</p>	<p><u>World Class Worcestershire</u></p> <p>KD introduced the World Class Worcestershire paper which outlined the development of the identity and the activities that had taken place around Inward Investment.</p> <p>A facilitated session took place where everyone was split into 4 Groups:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Components 2. Characteristics 3. Characters 4. Challenges <p>The outcome of these discussions will be written into a report with a proposal to develop a brand proposition, brand values, evidence and proof points, key messages and elevated pitch for the county as a place to live, visit, work, invest and do business.</p> <p>It is proposed that a small group meet between 10am – 12pm on the 15th June at County Hall to discuss next steps, if other Board Members wish to attend please inform Diane Dwyers at the WLEP. A report of the outcome of the Board will then be circulated.</p>	<p>Kirsten Dally</p> <p>Kirsten Dally</p>

<p>10</p>	<p><u>Sub Group Reports</u></p> <p>Noted.</p>	<p>ACTION</p>
<p>11</p> <p>11.1</p>	<p><u>Any Other Business</u></p> <p>Combined Authorities/LEPs</p> <p>GW outlined that from a LEP perspective no emerging narrative had come from the new Conservative Government. Generally there is a feeling that any boundary changes would not be forced.</p> <p>SG gave an update on the local government leaders discussion earlier in the week which covered the following points:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The mayoral model does not translate into a county setting. 2. Is the Worcestershire geography big enough? 3. Leaders were having conversations with the individual council cabinets. 4. The Secretary of State was presenting to county councils in early June. 5. Any work on a bid would not be concluded until the end of September. <p>GP stated that from early discussion with the new Ministerial team for the DfT. The LEP agenda continues as before.</p> <p>The English devolution debate has no clarification on what is happening with smaller counties. There remains a strong emphasis on delivery and there are no signals about funding until after the Autumn.</p> <p>MS summed this section up by suggesting that the Executive keep any developments under review and are reported to the Board when necessary.</p>	
<p>12</p>	<p><u>Dates of Meetings in 2015</u></p> <p>WLEP BOARD:</p> <p>23rd July - Worcester Bosch 24th Sept - Worcester Bosch 19th Nov - Worcester Bosch</p>	