

## Minutes of the Cheshire and Warrington Local Enterprise Partnership Performance and Investment Committee Meeting held on 20<sup>th</sup> May 2020 at 1.30 via Teams

In attendance: Chris Hindley (Chairman), Paul Goodwin, Sean Traynor, Peter Skates, Nichola

Newton, Ian Brooks, Rachel Laver

**Apologies:** Alex Thompson, Stewart Brown,

Presentations on Crewe High Speed Ready Heart by Jez Goodman and Peter Skates, Computers for

Schools by Pat Jackson, the Delivery Plan: Enterprise Zone by John Adlen

Item No.	Item	To be Actioned	By When
1.	Welcome, Introductions and Apologies	by	
	Apologies from SB and AT.		
	Due to the Corona Virus meeting held via Teams		
2	Conflicts of Interest		
_	CH asked for any conflicts to be declared.		
	PG and PS declared an interest in Crewe Heat Network		
3	Minutes and actions from the last meeting:		
	RL thanked ST for assisting with ensuring CWAC claims and reports are		
	submitted on time. ST to follow up regarding Ellesmere Port One Public		
	Estate.		
	Litate.		
	Crewe Heat Network offer letter not signed by CEC. To be addressed under		
	programme manager update.		
	The Assurance Framework will need updating and signing off by the LEP	IB	Jul 20
	board following the audit. Training will be arranged after this.		34.25
	Seven junior board members appointed. Really good calibre of candidates.	IB	Jun 20
	IB to see if there one of the members could be a member of P&I.		Juli 20
	TS to be asked again to provide a list of projects who unsuccessfully applied	TC	l 20
	for ESIF funds so that they can be added to the pipeline.	TS	Jun 20
	State-aid paper sent to TS and Kerry Hall.		
	LGF quarterly report – RL had sent this for approval by correspondence. AS		
	still awaiting some responses RL ran through the report. All approved.		

	NN requested that RL did a run through each quarter to make it clearer what was being approved and to make it easier to digest.	RL	Jul 20
	Blue Beck offer issued but not yet signed. RL to follow up	RL	Jun 20
	Energy call issued. CH thanked for his help in progressing the discussion.  Discussion held with Blue Orchid regarding awarding additional funding and followed up with reserve project.		
	Minutes approved.		
4	Crewe High Speed Ready Heart		
	JG gave an overview of the project and progress to date. Hoarding has been erected around acquired properties. Demolition due to commence in August.  COVID has impacted on the scheme as unsure what appetite there will be for		
	investment post lockdown. However, Crewe has very little competition locally so is well positioned to attract investment and spend.  Market hall works were going well but have been delayed due to COVID. CEC		
	don't want to open the market immediately after Christmas due to post Christmas trade conditions and will therefore look to officially open the market next Easter. £3.9m expected to be the total cost of the market Hall works.		
	CEC to consider how best to spend the £5m LGF already approved and will come back with a revised scheme to the next meeting.	JG/PS	June 20
5	Computers for Schools  PJ ran through a proposal to award £25k to schools for computers to distribute to the most deprived pupils.		
	The committee endorsed the proposal with the conditions that the schools would have to retain ownership of the computers and that they would confirm that internet access, programme subscriptions were provided as necessary and the project sought to make links with Connecting Cheshire.	PJ/RL	June 20
6	Delivery Plan update - Enterprise Zone		
	JA provided an update on progress. Lack of floorspace within with EZ which they're trying to address. Good pipeline of projects. Waiting for the loan facility to be agreed so that these can be progressed.  1200 jobs from Royal London at Alderley Park when they move in this summer.		
	The 19/20 business rates will be known by the end of May.		
	Alderley Park used to have one rateable value. Space now re-rated as space is split out which makes it difficult to forecast income. Cushman and Wakefield helping with forecasting rate income and due to report at end of May.		

	VOA has backlog of valuations which should see increase in income when		
	valuations have been completed. The LEP will get the backdated rates.		
	Thornton – As Part of looking for a joint venture partner due diligence has		
	thrown up several issues. There are 16 outstanding covenants. The energy to		
	the site is still coupled with the shell site. The JV procurement may be		
	delayed until autumn.		
	£2.7 million of retained business rate to date.		
	There is expected to be an uplift in demand for life science space but less for		
	logistics.		
	PS Left the meeting.		
7	Delivery Plan update		
	RL bought to the committee's attention to the delivery plan outputs and		
	outcomes for the year. Progress against these will be reported at the July		
8	meeting.		
0	Programme Manager Update		
	RL ran through the projects by exception.		
	Crewe heat network was discussed. The offer letter to CEC expired on 6 <sup>th</sup>		
	May but hadn't been signed because there was no certainty about the		
	contribution from high streets funding until the autumn at the earliest. CEC		
	had the opportunity to underwrite the costs of the scheme, but were unable		
	to provide that assurance to P&I before or during the meeting. P&I		
	considered the risk of the project not progressing with the facts that we are		
	in the final year of the LGF programme and that CLGU have confirmed they		
	will conduct a review of progress in September. The final third of our		
	allocation for the year will be conditional on progress being across the		
	programme and on individual projects being fully contracted. With this		
	information to hand it was felt that the £700k allocated to this project was at risk of being lost to the sub-region and therefore should be withdrawn from		
	the project and reallocated to a project/s with greater certainty of delivery		
	this year. It was agreed that the offer letter would be withdrawn.		
	this year. It was agreed that the other letter would be withdrawn.		
	The outputs had been fully updated following the Q4 submissions it shows		
	that good progress is being made . It is likely that output achievement will		
	substantially increase this year as projects complete.		
9	Risk Register Review		
	RL highlighted the changes that had been made to the risk register in light of	NN	June
	COVID. The committee agreed that the risks were appropriate. NN offered		
	to share the risk register from the college to see what can be translated to		
	the LEP.		
	IB Been in contact with insurers under landlords regarding risks to working		
	from home and up the office . Reasonable adjustments had been required		

	and staff have been given an allocation of up to £200 to improve working	
	conditions at home	
10	AOB – none Meeting closed.	