



Minutes of the Cheshire Science Corridor Enterprise Zone Board

September 2019

Meeting Title	Cheshire Science Corridor Enterprise Zone Board	
Date	12 September 2019	
Time	13:00-15:00	
Location	Birchwood Park	
Agenda Item		Action/Decision
1. Attendees and apologies	<p>EZ Board Members: Robert Mee, Chair of EZ Board and LEP Board Member Cllr Richard Beacham, Cheshire West & Chester Council Tony Bochenski, Independent Member Peter Broxton, LEP Board Member and Vice Chair of the EZ Board Chris Farrow, Independent Member Annette McDonald, Independent Member Cllr Amanda Stott, Cheshire East Council</p> <p>In Attendance: John Adlen, Cheshire & Warrington LEP Julian Cobley, Cheshire East Council Philip Cox, Cheshire & Warrington LEP Stephen Fitzsimons, Warrington & Co. Andy Hulme, Cheshire & Warrington LEP Steph Ramsden, Cheshire West & Chester Council Catherine Walker, Cheshire & Warrington LEP</p> <p>Apologies: Cllr Russ Bowden, Warrington Borough Council</p>	
2. Previous EZ Board minutes	All matters arising from the previous EZ Board held on 16 May 2019 have been actioned or will be covered in this board.	Minutes agreed and signed off
3. Declarations of interest	<p>(a) Cllr Amanda Stott and Julian Cobley declared an interest on behalf of Cheshire East Council in Alderley Park</p> <p>(b) Stephen Fitzsimons declared an interest on behalf of Warrington Borough Council in Birchwood Park</p> <p>(c) Cllr Richard Beecham and Steph Ramsden declared an interest on behalf of Cheshire West & Chester Council in sites in Ellesmere Port</p> <p>(d) Chris Farrow declared an interest in sites in Ellesmere Port as Chair of the Ellesmere Port Development Board</p>	

4.	<p>Birchwood Park Update</p> <p>Due to the level of business to be conducted by the Board, it was agreed to forego the Birchwood Park update on this occasion.</p>	
5.	<p>Governance</p> <p>Philip Cox reported that the following new members have joined the EZ Board:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Peter Broxton, joins as a LEP Board member and Vice-Chair of the EZ Board ▪ Cllr Richard Beacham, joins as the new representative from Cheshire West & Chester Council ▪ Annette McDonald, Deputy Managing Director Tatton Group, joins as an independent member ▪ Cllr Amanda Stott, joins as the new representative from Cheshire East Council <p>The following members have been reconfirmed in their positions on the EZ Board:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Tony Bochenski, independent member ▪ Chris Farrow, independent member 	
6.	<p>a) EZ investment programme update</p> <p>John Adlen updated the EZ Board on progress of the investment programme:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Glasshouse – progressing well, due to complete by end November 2019 ▪ Aviator – Steels have been erected and is cladding currently going on ▪ Helix Phase 2 – completes in October 2019, official opening on 4th October. Applicant agreed to drawdown grant on Practical Completion ▪ Newport Rhino – due to complete in November 2019 ▪ New Bridge Road Substation – substation completed and up and running, finalising the legal agreement, had to negotiate a separate deed of access across Peel’s land. Should complete legals in September, grant will be made in a single payment ▪ Quadrant Phase 2 – although approved as an investment, we will not sign the legal agreement until the EZ Borrowing Facility is in place, applicant is proceeding at own risk. Steels have been erected and cladding currently going on <p>b) EZ investment cases</p> <p>The EZ Board considered an investment case from Alderley Park Limited (APL) for a total of £4m investment in respect of two projects to refurbish Block 22 and the basement of Blocks 23/24 at Alderley Park that will provide a total of 9,011 sqm (c.97,000 sq ft) of refurbished laboratory space. The EZ Board was supportive of the investment in principle but raised concerns around how the development of the multi-storey carpark fits with the wider sustainability strategy for the site, especially in terms of green travel. The EZ Board instructed the Growth Director to seek further clarification before representing the business case to the Board.</p>	

7.	<p>Operational update</p> <p>a) Growth Director's update The EZ Board considered and noted the Growth Director's report on key development activities undertaken during the last period.</p> <p>b) Business Rate Discount applications The Board ratified the following Business Rate Discount applications:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Carrick Therapeutics ▪ Cerberus Nuclear ▪ Big Style Fashions ▪ SLCE ▪ Ebeni Ltd 	
8.	<p>Marketing and communications</p> <p>a) Marketing and promotion update The EZ Board considered and noted the Growth Director's report on marketing and promotional activities undertaken during the last period.</p> <p>b) Future strategy for the Science Corridor The EZ Board considered the discussion paper tabled by the Growth Director and agreed to consider its implications at the next EZ Board meeting in November.</p>	
9.	<p>Finance update</p> <p>The EZ Board noted the Growth Director's update on EZ finances and the creation of a £30m borrowing facility from the three local authorities.</p>	
10.	<p>AOB</p> <p>There being no other business, the Chair thanked everyone for their attendance and closed the meeting.</p>	