

Agenda and papers

Growth Corridors Board

22 March 2022 17:00-19:00

Location: The Engine Rooms, Birchwood Park

Agenda

Item	Lead	Time
1. Attendees and apologies	PB	17:00-17:05
2. Declarations of interest	PB	17:05-17:10
3. Minutes and matters arising	PB	17:10-17:15
4. Public speaking time (no items)	-	-
5. Town Centres		
a. Our changing town centres	JA	17:15-17:30
b. Cheshire West town centres	GD	17:30-17:40
c. Cheshire East town centres	CEC	17:40-17:50
d. Warrington town centre	SF	17:50-18:00
e. Role of the Growth Corridors Board in town centre regeneration	PB	18:00-18:20
6. Governance	-	-
a. Progress against purpose pyramid	JA	18:20-18:30
7. Cheshire Science Corridor Enterprise Zone		18:30-18:40
a. Investment programme update	JA	
b. Investment pipeline	JA	
8. High Speed Growth Corridor	JA	18:40-18:45
9. Cluster/sector development		18:45-18:55
a. Life Sciences	PB	
b. Energy	JA	
10. AOB	PB	18:55-19:00

Item 1: Attendees and apologies

Attendees

Board members:

Peter Broxton (Chair)
Cllr Richard Beacham
Tony Bochenski
Chris Farrow
Nicola Heron
Linda Hilton
Cllr Tom Jennings
Cllr Nick Mannion

In attendance:

John Adlen
Gemma Davies
Stephen Fitzsimons
Philip Kerr

Apologies:

Philip Cox
Charles Jarvis
Loren Jones
Martin Wood

Item 2: Declarations of interest

Growth Corridors Board members and attendees to declare any personal or professional interests in an agenda item in line with the Cheshire and Warrington Local Enterprise Partnership's Local Assurance Framework. Any Board member or attendee declaring an interest can remain in the meeting while the item is discussed but are only allowed to answer direct questions about that item and should refrain from promoting the item in any way.

Item 3: Minutes and matters arising

Minutes of the Growth Corridors Board meeting held on 25 January 2022 attached as **Appendix A**.

Item 4: Public speaking time

There have been no requests from members of the public to attend or speak at the meeting.

Item 5: Town centres

Our town centres are going through a period of significant change, with shifts to online shopping and changing consumer expectations. The Board will receive presentations on the changing face of the high street, the challenges and opportunities facing our town centres and hear what's happening across Cheshire and Warrington's town centres. The Board will then have an opportunity to discuss its role in supporting town centre regeneration.

Item 6: Governance

Item 6a: Progress against purpose pyramid

John Adlen to provide a verbal update on progress against the purpose pyramid and strategic plan.

Item 7: Cheshire Science Corridor Enterprise Zone

Item 7a: Investment programme update

The table below provides the latest position on the approved EZ investments.

Project	Total Project Cost (£)	Total EZ Investment Committed (£)	EZ Investment Drawn Down to Date (£)	Remainder to be Drawn Down (£)
Glasshouse	27,800,000	3,872,876	3,872,876	-
Aviator Phase 1	10,786,918	1,701,418	1,388,843*	-
Helix Phase 2	3,728,223	669,347	656,992*	-
Newport Rhino	6,187,228	792,670	792,670	-
New Bridge Road Substation	1,698,180	590,857	590,857	-
Quadrant Phase 2	13,340,000	3,618,000	782,662*	-
Blocks 22-24 Alderley Park	19,800,000	4,000,000	1,836,217	2,163,783
Total	81,642,369	15,245,168	9,921,117	2,163,783

*Outturn investment less than anticipated in the business case

Item 7b: Investment pipeline

- **Vortex (Newport Business Park)** – investment case approved by P&I Committee. Progress has slowed down on the development due to planning and we have still not agreed the final grant allocation.
- **Quadrant Phase 3 (Birchwood Park)** – a business case for investment in Quadrant Phase 3 (153,000 sq ft industrial floorspace) was received on 08 March, which Cushman & Wakefield are currently appraising. Expect to come to the May Board for consideration.

- **Alderley Park** – a business case for investment in 120,000 sq ft of new lab space was received on 11 March, which Cushman & Wakefield are currently appraising. Expect to come to the May Board for consideration.
- **Enviroo (Protos)** – awaiting revised business case in response to queries raised by Cushman & Wakefield.
- **Waste to Hydrogen Plant (Protos)** – awaiting revised business case has been received from Peel NRE for their proposed waste to hydrogen plant at Protos. The Growth Director and Cushman & Wakefield have provided feedback and Peel NRE are currently revising. Expect to come forward to either the March or May Growth Corridors Board for consideration.
- **Thornton Science Park** – University of Chester is currently in the process of selecting its preferred investment partner for Thornton Science Park.

Item 8: High Speed Growth Corridor

John Adlen to provide a verbal update on the High Speed Growth Corridor.

Item 9: Cluster/sector development

Item 9a: Life sciences

Peter Broxton to provide a verbal update.

Item 9b: Energy

John Adlen to provide a verbal update.

Item 10: AOB

Members are invited to table any other items of business.