



**Minutes of the Cheshire and Warrington Local Enterprise Partnership
Performance and Investment Committee Meeting
held on 16th December 2020 at 1.30 via Teams**

In attendance: Chris Hindley (Chairman), Catherine Walker, Paul Goodwin, Peter Skates, Nichola Newton, Joe Toward, Ian Brooks, Rachel Laver.

Apologies: Alex Thompson, Stewart Brown.

Presentations on IOTA – Bill Carr, Carpe Diem
ESIF – Tim Smith

Item No.	Item	To be Actioned by	By When
1.	Welcome, Introductions and Apologies Apologies from AT and SB Due to the Corona Virus meeting held via Teams		
2	Conflicts of Interest CH asked for any conflicts to be declared. Declarations of interest: NN declared an interest in the IOTA project as she is the Employers and Skills sponsor for the project.		
3	Minutes and actions from the last meeting: Still outstanding Computers for Schools claim received. RL to follow up again Local Assurance Framework changes to be made following review. Offer letter issued to Medicines Discover Catapult. PS requested minutes were updated to differentiate between him and Peter Simpson. Duplicate risk from Risk register deleted UOC confirmed that Van was coming from France, due in January but would still need fitting out. RL reported she'd has a meeting with UOC and it appeared any delays could be managed without impacting the ability to draw the full grant by the end of March.	RL RL RL	Dec Dec Dec

	<p>RL has worked with WBC on a solution to deal with the underspend on the sustainable travel schemes and would be covered later in the agenda.</p> <p>Warrington Smart Grid project had made considerable progress and submitted it's first claim. Still concern about what the project will deliver as firm relationships not yet established with companies to use the kit.</p> <p>Minutes approved.</p>		
4	<p>IOTA</p> <p>Bill Carr (BC) gave an overview of project progress and it had changed since approval. Courses have had to move online because of COVID. They have exchanged some cat with Lego which is easier to clean , but recognise that loaning kit to schools comes with the potential risk if it is not cleaned properly .</p> <p>First Lego League launched in January. Kit now sent to schools which they will be able to keep for three months.</p> <p>IOTA has been given £20k of KUBO kits (coding kit) to trial. Kubo can be used to programme robots.</p> <p>Online learning with businesses has been difficult due to oversupply in the market. Therefore IOTA isn't looking to target this market at present and instead is focusing on links with schools. they expect to overachieve on primary school outputs.</p> <p>RL has discussed the need for realistic outputs which reflected the changes since approval.</p> <p>Some of the allocated learning space will be converted in studio space. BC provided revised outputs which RL asked to updated with Private leverage from KOB0 and in kind funding. BC confirmed that Carpe Diem were committed to delivering the project over the 5 year period.</p> <p>The committee agreed that subject to the Benefits Cost realisation ration being above 2, which based on the figures it appeared to be, they were happy to award the additional funding. Employers and Skills board to confirm they're happy with the changes. RL to liaise and then issue updated offer letter.</p>	RL	Jan 21
5	<p>European Social Investment Funds (ESIF)</p> <p>Tim Smith gave an update on ESIF funds.</p> <p>No national pot available now as ERDF has gone into other priorities.</p> <p>There is now some funding available due to underspend on projects Likely to be subject to a targeted call process. TS confirmed that European</p>		

	<p>RL talked about the limited press coverage the programme receives and whether there was an appetite for the LEP to be more pro-active in celebrating some of success the programmes have had.</p> <p>IB confirmed that PR was being looked at and available budget.</p>		
8	<p>AOB</p> <p>Board recruitment gone live today. This covered both LEP and Marketing Cheshire roles. IB asked committee members to circulate around their networks.</p> <p>CH thanks members for all their efforts throughout the year and wished them a Merry Christmas.</p> <p>Next meeting 27th January 2021</p>	All	Jan