

**Minutes of the Cheshire and Warrington Local Enterprise Partnership**

**Performance and Investment Committee Meeting**

**held on 21st March 2018 at 1.30**

**In attendance:**  Ged Barlow (Chairman), Lisa Harris, Chris Hindley, Jan Willis,

**Apologies:** John Downes, Steve Park, Francis Lee

**In attendance:** Rachel Brosnahan, Mark Livesey.

Presentation on Warrington East Highway Scheme by: John Nichol, Warrington Borough Council

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| Item No. | Item | To be Actioned by | By When |
| 1. | Welcome, Introductions and Apologies |  |  |
| 2 | **Conflicts of Interest**  GB asked for any conflicts to be declared.  LH declared her interest in the Tarvin Road project |  |  |
| 4 | **Minutes from the last meeting Approved** |  |  |
| 5 | **Warrington East Phase 2 Scheme**  John Nichol gave a presentation explaining the rationale for the scheme and what it involved. The scheme is based on traffic modelling carried about by Motts of the whole of the area. It is felt the project is key to not only the growth of the area but in terms of maintaining the existing significant businesses that are based at Birchwood park. Addressing the transport issues will help make Birchwood Park and the surrounds attractive to further investment and ties in with aspirations of the Science Corridor.  The scheme will help address the perceived and real traffic issues in the area.  Starting the work now will complement the work due to start on the m62 to upgrade it to a Smart motorway.  It is understood a major employer at Birchwood is looking for new property and this scheme may help to retain them.  **Request that there is a split between new and safeguarded jobs.**  **WBC to confirm that they will underwrite the EZ funding**  **Any Private Sector leverage (direct or indirect) should be captured as part of the project.** | RB  RB | March 18  March 18 |
| 6 | **Thornton**  John Adlen provided an update on the wider work on the site.  The site has Enterprise Zone status but isn’t attracting as much interest as other EZ sites. There is a complex planning situation due to the previous uses of the site, especially with regard to having Education facilities on the sites.  JA picked up a strong level of developer interest in the site at MIPIM.  There are infrastructure issues which need to be addressed at the site and the University has indicated they would need £25m for these works. The EZ could potentially fund some of these works if there was confidence about end users. A company has shown interest in setting up a factory at the site but wants grant/ gap funding support to make the site more of an appealing option to them.  RB updated on progress with the energy demonstrator. There are three companies using the office space but still no users of the Energy Demonstrator space. 43 jobs were expected to be created/using the building by the end of March 18. The number of people employed in the building is currently 17.  **GB to write to Thornton to outline the P&Is concern about progress with finding users of the building and the development of the wider site.** | RB/GB | March 18 |
| 7 | **Tarvin Road**  RB provided an update on the Tarvin Road scheme. P&I agreed to give conditional approval to the scheme. It was requested that signalling of the A55 junction was included and the impact assessed. |  |  |
| 7 | **Programme Manager update**  RB ran through the programme manager update highlighting key issues which included, the change to the timing of the Ellesmere Port One estate project and an update. The Outline Business case it expected to be submitted to the LEP at the end of March 18 with an appraisal completed and submitted by the end of April 18. Heads of terms with partners are expected to be signed by the end of May 18.  Philip Cox due to meet Cllr Sam Dixon on the 23rd March to discuss progress with the project.  Committee agreed that there would need to be a presentation on Ellesmere Port One Estate Project at the May meeting  The Committee approved the package of sustainable transport projects subject to LTB endorsement and Board sign off. | RB | March 18 |
| 8 | **ESIF update**  Lots of support has been bought in to help develop ERDF and ESIF bids. Tim Smith from Warrington has been seconded part time as has Maude Duthie from the University of Chester. In addition two consultancy firms are also providing support. |  |  |
| 9 | **MHCLG report**  RB ran through the MHCLG report and explained what progress had been made during the quarter, paying particular attention to the outputs. The committee approved the report.  JW requested that it was sent to Paul Goodwin for review before she signs off. | RB | March 18 |
| 10 | **AOB** |  |  |