



**Minutes of the Cheshire and Warrington Local Enterprise Partnership  
Performance and Investment Committee Meeting  
held on 19<sup>th</sup> August 2020 at 1.30 via Teams**

**In attendance:** Chris Hindley (Chairman), Paul Goodwin, Sean Traynor, Alex Thompson, Peter Skates, Nichola Newton, Joe Toward (part), Ian Brooks, Rachel Laver

**Apologies:** Stewart Brown

Presentations on Digital 4.0 by Dheshi and Helen Nellist from CCSW  
AMET centres – Nichola Newton and Cath Brierley  
Strategy Delivery Plan update- Andy Hulme

Item No.	Item	To be Actioned by	By When
1.	Welcome, Introductions and Apologies  Apologies from SB. JT to join later in the meeting  Due to the Corona Virus meeting held via Teams		
2	<b>Conflicts of Interest</b> CH asked for any conflicts to be declared.  Declarations of interest: NN- AMET centres		
3	<b>Minutes and actions from the last meeting:</b>  RL to follow up with Computers for School projects as no claims have been submitted yet.  Junior Board is now called the Engagement Board.  Offer letters for new skills projects have been issued.  Committee members agreed to continue to help ensure reports and claims are submitted on time.  Netzero have responded to information request. Item discussed more fully later in the meeting.  Programme risk register updated.  Minutes approved.	RL	Sept
4	<b>Skills presentations</b>		

	<p><b>DG and HH from CCSW gave a presentation on their skills projects concentrating on Digital 4.0.</b></p> <p>Covid has impacted ability to deliver as focus has been on delivering online learning. The College has also suffered a significant reduction in income but remain committed to delivering this project.</p> <p>HH confirmed that tenders were due to be awarded on the 25<sup>th</sup> August and that the full grant will be spent by the end of September 20. £270k has been allocated for a 3d printer but again confident that it can be procured by the end of September.</p> <p>HH to send revised milestones.</p> <p><b>NN and CB an update on progress with the AMET centres project and Digital Skills project</b></p> <p><b>AMET Centres:</b></p> <p>Total remaining spend for Winsford to be invoiced by the end of October (£458k total cost).</p> <p>Warrington Kit (£526k total cost) is in the second phase and has been tendered yet but the list of kit required has been agreed. It won't be tendered until after October half term but the final claim will be submitted before Christmas.</p> <p>NN gave personal guarantee that the October date would be met.</p> <p><b>Digital Skills</b></p> <p>Project management plan will be submitted by the 18<sup>th</sup> September.</p> <p>CB commented on how good it has been to work with other colleges and see the potential benefits of the collaboration.</p> <p>The project could be seen as seed funding for the Stronger Towns bid which if successful will provide an amazing opportunity for the area nationally as a place of excellence for digital skills in construction.</p> <p>Meeting training needs are now more important than ever.</p> <p>WVR are leading on the procurement for the whole project. Due to some issues with Hub and spoke model NN would like a bit of contingency.</p> <p>NN confirmed that she is confident spend can be achieved by the end of December.</p>	HH	Aug 20
5	<p><b>Strategy Delivery Plan update</b></p> <p>Andy Hulme gave an update on the strategy delivery plan actions:</p> <p>Local Industrial Strategy not likely to be published in it's current form. Government is changing tack.</p> <p>White paper due covering recovery plans. Part of the LIS are more or less relevant than others.</p> <p>Need to develop a short term action plan.</p>		

	<p>Sustainability and inclusivity likely to become more central. Digital infrastructure Interim work received. Development investment plan due Sept this will feed into the sub-regional investment plan.</p> <p>Skill strategy is currently being reviewed. Pat Jackson is leading on this .</p> <p>Post Brexit work also being developed.</p> <p>Government asking for pipeline of projects as part of the comprehensive spending review. not yet clear what the scale or future programmes will be.</p> <p>SPF still likely to provide some funding to replace ESIF funds but again the quantum is as yet unknown.</p> <p>Natural capital - opportunities to secure funding will be informed by the natural capital audit and subsequent investment plan .</p> <p>AT- Future funding needs flexibility and autonomy to enable LEPs/local authorities to respond to needs in a timely and effective manner. RL confirmed that at every opportunity we have asked for greater flexibility especially between capital and revenue and to have discretionary funding which would enable us to respond to economic changes over programme periods rather than pre-empt what the funding will need to be spent on at the beginning of programmes.</p> <p>AH confirmed that he wasn't aware of any border control issues yet.</p>		
6	<p><b>Programme Manager Update</b></p> <p>Concern remains every ability of the Ellesmere Port project to spend all the ground funding by the end of March . RL confirmed that she had spoken with ST who is confident it is just a reporting issue and the funding will be spent on time. ST confirmed that he didn't think it was necessary To widen the approval for the project but that we can review the situation In September. He also confirmed that the accuracy of the forecasts on spend will be looked at in future reports and claims .</p> <p>RL Highlighted the improvement to outputs the slowly starting to creep up now that a number of projects are completed . As part of developing best practise it will be better if on your re forecasts of output were requested from project leads as at present they never updated from those included in the contracts. RL to follow up.</p> <p>NetZero</p> <p>RL ran through the update from EA technology. The project why not presenting such high carbon savings I'll see original version We're still supporting Environmental Protection and priorities an could still be used to</p>	<p>ST</p> <p>RL</p>	<p>Sept</p> <p>Sept</p>

	<p>highlight to businesses what technologies they could install to reduce their carbon footprint.</p> <p>The committee agreed to ratify the approval of the project.</p> <p>GPF - There has been some interest in Funding but no funding is currently available until the enterprise zone loan facility is agreed . This is currently with CEC's legal team.</p> <p>Evergreen - no investment is yet to be made but it is understood but MHCLG will be writing to confirm some flexibility in the investment criteria.</p> <p>Business restructuring grants has seen huge demand almost fully committed within six days .</p> <p>Risk - RL ran through the corporate and programme risks, highlighting EZ Income uncertainty and uncertainty around crew hub on the high growth corridor.</p>		
7	<p>LGF quarterly report</p> <p>RL Run through the quarterly report . The committee agreed the report AT to arrange for a signed copy to be sent to RL.</p>	AT	August
8	<p>AOB – CH said that the Engagement Board were looking for tasks and asked P&amp;I members to think about areas to add to their agenda.</p> <p>NN send apologies for next meeting.</p>	All	Sept