

Agenda and papers

Growth Corridors Board

09 December 2021 17:00-19:00

Location: TBC

Agenda

Item	Lead	Time
Part A: Public items		
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	-	-
5. Governance		17:15-17:25
a. 2022 schedule of meetings	JA	
b. Purpose pyramid and strategy	PB	
6. Cheshire Science Corridor Enterprise Zone		17:25-17:40
a. Quarterly monitoring	JA	
b. Investment programme update	JA	
c. Investment pipeline	JA	
d. Finance update	IB	
7. High Speed Growth Corridor	JA	17:40-17:45
8. Marketing and promotion		17:45-18:05
a. Sub-regional branding and marketing	JM	
9. Cluster/sector development		18:05-18:10
a. Life Sciences	PB	
b. Energy	JA	
10. Town centres	LAs	18:15-18:25
Part B: Non-public items		
11. Vortex investment case	JA	18:25-18:55
12. AOB	PB	18:55-19:00

Part A: Public items

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

Katie McConnell

Cllr Amanda Stott

In attendance:

John Adlen

Gemma Davies

Stephen Fitzsimons

Philip Kerr

Martin Wood

Apologies:

Loren Jones (Vice-Chair)

Philip Cox

Item 2: Declarations of interest

EZ 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 23 September 2021 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: Governance

Item 5a: Schedule of meetings 2022

Having canvassed members about the best time to hold future Board meetings, the most appropriate slot, based on the responses received to date, would appear to be the fourth Tuesday of the month. On this basis the schedule of meetings for 2022 would be:

25th January

22nd March¹

31st May

26th July

27th September

29th November

Item 5b: Purpose pyramid and strategic plan

To review the draft purpose pyramid and strategic plan for the Growth Corridors Board (attached as **Appendix B**).

Recommendation: *That the Board agrees and signs off the purpose pyramid and strategic plan.*

Item 6: Cheshire Science Corridor Enterprise Zone

Item 6a: quarterly monitoring

The table below sets out the latest monitoring data for the Enterprise Zone.

Indicator	Q1 2021/22	Q2 2021/22	Total Lifetime EZ Outputs
Number of new businesses started trading	16	6	140
Number of new businesses ceased trading	6	3	41
Net change in number of businesses	10	3	102
Number of new jobs	197	200	3,679
Number of jobs lost	50	8	237
Net change in number of jobs	147	192	3,470
Value of private sector investment	4.51m	2.11m	161.6m
Total new and refurbished floorspace (sqm)	568	549	77,015

¹ Meeting a week earlier due to existing holiday commitments.

Item 6b: 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 6c: Investment pipeline

- **Vortex (Newport Business Park)** – an investment case has been received from Vortex Business Park Ltd., which will be considered under Item 11.
- **Enviroo (Protos)** – a revised investment case has been received from Enviroo (previously known as ASD), which is currently being appraised and undergoing additional due diligence. Expect to come forward to the January or March Growth Corridors Board for consideration.
- **Waste to Hydrogen Plant (Protos)** – a draft investment case has been received from Peel NRE for their proposed waste to hydrogen plant at Protos.
- **Quadrant Phase 3 (Birchwood Park)** – discussions ongoing with Patrizia about a potential investment in Quadrant Phase 3, which would see the development of an 85,000 sq ft pre-let in conjunction with the development of 3 speculative units totalling 67,650 sq ft. Submission of investment case expected for November Board.
- **Thornton Science Park** – competition currently underway to select an investment/development partner. The University of Chester hopes to have a preferred partner in place by early 2022.

Item 6d: Finance update

Ian Brooks will provide a verbal update on the EZ finances.

Item 7: High Speed Growth Corridor

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

Item 8: Marketing and promotion

Joe Manning (Chief Executive of Marketing Cheshire) will attend the Growth Corridors Board to discuss branding, marketing and promotion.

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: Town centres

Verbal updates will be provided by local authority partners.

Part B: Non-public items

Item 11: Vortex investment case

Paper attached as **Appendix C**.

Item 12: AOB

Members are invited to table any other items of business.