**Business Growth Committee**

**Agenda**

**Tuesday 3rd March 2020, 10am**

**Venue:**

**Port Swigger offices, Knutsford**

**Attendees:**

Jane Gaston

Debbie Baker

Becky Stuttard

Stephen Kinsey

Denise Proctor

Iain Paton

Stephen Fitzsimons

Kerry Hall

Andy Devaney

**Apologies:**

John Downes

Anne Boyd

1. Welcome and Introduction – Chair introduced the meeting and we were welcomed to Port Swigger by Becky Stuttard. Becky provided some background on the company and how they have scaled from 1 employee to 60 with plans to be over 100 in the near future.
2. Actions from previous meeting:

***Action****: Digital Skills Presentation to be circulated to committee -* ***Complete***

***Action****: Terms of reference to be updated to better reflect impact -* ***Complete***

1. Growth Hub update was provided by Andy with Kerry giving an overview of plans for enhanced business intelligence capabilities. There was also an update on reporting methodologies and impact assessments as well as an update on the support programme being delivered by BDO on behalf of several North West Growth Hubs. Committee were also brought up to date on the work being undertaken on place marketing and perceptions of Cheshire and Warrington. Catherine Walker is leading on this work for the LEP.

***Action*** *- Implementation plan and delivery milestones on culture and technology changes, objectives for key personnel and timescales.*

***Action*** *- Monthly report against Delivery Plan outputs*

***Action*** *- BDO provide clear output that businesses can use moving forward.*

***Action -*** *Briefing on Business Continuity re corona virus*

***Action*** *- Catherine to present at a future meeting on place and perception work*

1. Presentation on Accelerate Programme. Programme has been approved and recruitment has just completed. All members were asked to circulate info through networks.

***Action*** *Presentation to be circulated*

1. Discussion of MIT Programme – Becky is part of a team of entrepreneurs working on a joint piece of work with Lancashire and Cumbria to look at innovation in entrepreneurship and business. It is very early days for the programme and more information will be forthcoming in the coming weeks.

***Action:*** *Regular updates on MIT REAP Programme*