

Official minutes of meeting

## **Growth Corridors Board**

**26 July 2022 15:30-17:30**

Location: The Glasshouse, Alderley Park

<b>Item</b>	<b>Action</b>
<hr/> <b>Part A: Public items</b> <hr/>	
<b>1. Attendees and apologies</b>	
<b>Attendees:</b>	
<b>Board members:</b>	
Peter Broxton (Chair)	
Tony Bochenski	
Chris Farrow	
Cllr Nick Mannion	
<b>In attendance:</b>	
John Adlen	
Stephen Fitzsimons	
<b>Apologies:</b>	
Loren Jones (Vice-Chair)	
Cllr Richard Beacham	
Gemma Davies	
Nicola Heron	
Linda Hilton	
Charles Jarvis	
Cllr Tom Jennings	
Martin Wood	

Item	Action
<b>2. Tour of Glasshouse and Blocks 22-24</b>	<p>Members of the Growth Corridors Board were given a tour of the Glasshouse and Blocks 22-24 schemes which had received investment from the Enterprise Zone.</p>
<b>3. Declarations of interest</b>	<p>a) Stephen Fitzsimons declared an interest in Birchwood Park on behalf of Warrington Borough Council pertaining to item 7.</p> <p>b) Peter Broxton declared an interest in a company that had made an application to the Cheshire and Greater Manchester Life Sciences Fund.</p>
<b>4. Minutes and matters arising</b>	<p>The minutes of the meeting held on 28 June 2022 were agreed as a correct record.</p>
<b>5. Public speaking time</b>	<p>No requests were received from members of the public to attend or speak at the meeting.</p>
<b>6. Governance</b>	<p>No items</p> <p><b>a) Progress against purpose pyramid</b> John Adlen updated the Board on progress against the Purpose Pyramid.</p>
<b>7. Cheshire Science Corridor Enterprise Zone</b>	<p><b>a) Investment programme update</b> John Adlen updated the Board on the EZ investment programme, noting that new claims for Blocks 22-24 totalling £1.2m had been submitted and that Patrizia had informed the LEP of its requirement to draw down the £1m allocated for upgrading the electricity infrastructure at Birchwood Park, which was expected to be drawn down in September.</p>

**b) Investment pipeline**

John Adlen updated the Board on the EZ investment pipeline, noting that there are currently four schemes in the pipeline:

- **Vortex (Newport Business Park)** – still on hold at the request of the developer.
- **Enviroo (Protos)** – awaiting revised investment case.
- **Waste to Hydrogen Plant (Protos)** – awaiting revised investment case.
- **Quadrant Phase 3 (Birchwood Park)** – awaiting further detailed costings from applicant.
- **Alderley Park** – awaiting further detail on estimated retained business rates from applicant.
- **Thornton Science Park** – a meeting had been held with the University of Chester’s preferred development partner. The developer and University are currently going through due diligence.

**8. High Speed Growth Corridor**

John Adlen updated the Board on the progress of discussions with government regarding the High Speed Growth Corridor proposals and investment in the Crewe HS2 Hub. A joint working group has been established with the Department for Transport (DfT), Department for Levelling Up Homes and Communities (DLUHC) the Infrastructure Planning Authority (IPA), Cheshire East Council (CEC), Cheshire and Warrington LEP (C&WLEP) and Homes England to further develop the case for investment in Crewe.

**9. Marketing and promotion**

No items.

**10. Cluster and sector development****a) Life sciences**

A verbal update on the life sciences sector was given by Peter Broxton. The LEP is currently working with Chester Zoo and the University of Liverpool’s Leahurst campus on the development of an animal life sciences cluster around the Chester/Ellesmere Port area.

Item	Action
<b>b) Energy</b>	A verbal update on the energy/net zero sector was given by John Adlen. The SIGC report was in the process of being finalised and recommendations shared with Sub-Regional Leaders Board.
<b>11. Town centres</b>	No items
<hr/> <b>Part B: Non-public items</b> <hr/>	
<b>11. EZ investment cases</b>	No items.
<b>12. AOB</b>	There being no other business the Chair thanked everyone for their attendance and closed the meeting.