

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE
BUSINESS INVESTMENT PANEL
HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 2 SEPTEMBER 2020 AT TO BE
LIVESTREAMED HERE:
[HTTPS://WWW.YOUTUBE.COM/CHANNEL/UCAZJNSGPQZZT41VIBN2
ZK9A/LIVE](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCAZJNSGPQZZT41VIBN2ZK9A/LIVE) (COPY AND PASTE THE LINK IN YOUR BROWS**

Present:

Councillor James Lewis
Councillor Peter McBride
Councillor Alex Ross-Shaw
Councillor Jane Scullion
Colin Glass OBE
Jonathan King
Gareth Yates

Leeds City Council
Kirklees Council
Bradford Council
Calderdale Council
WGN
Pavers Shoes
Amazon

In attendance:

Elizabeth Courtney
Neill Fishman
Henry Rigg
Julia Radianec
Janette Woodcock

West Yorkshire Combined Authority
West Yorkshire Combined Authority
West Yorkshire Combined Authority
West Yorkshire Combined Authority
West Yorkshire Combined Authority

1. Apologies for absence

In the absence of Councillor Judith Blake, Councillor Jane Scullion chaired the meeting.

Apologies were received from Councillor Judith Blake, Councillor Shabir Pandor, Councillor Darren Byford, Councillor Graham Swift. Michael Allen Simon Wright and Marcus Mills.

2. Declarations of disclosable pecuniary interests

There were no items of pecuniary interests declared at the meeting.

3. Exempt information - Exclusion of the press and public

RESOLVED – That in accordance with paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A

to the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of Appendix 1 and 2 to Agenda Item 5 and 1 of Agenda item 6 on the grounds that they are likely, in view of the nature of the business to be transacted or the nature of the proceedings, that if members of the press and public were present there would be disclosure to them of exempt information and for the reasons set out in the report that in all the circumstances of the case, the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.

4. Minutes of the meeting of the Business Investment Panel held 11 March 2020

That the minutes of the Business Investment Panel held on 11 March 2020 be approved and signed by the Chair.

5. Business Growth Programme

The Panel considered a report to outline the current position regarding progress in committing grants through the Leeds City Region Enterprise Partnership (the LEP) Business Growth Programme (BGP) and was asked to note the updates at paragraph 4.1, 5.1, 6.1 and 7.1.

The Panel was asked to consider the new grant application outlined in paragraph 3.1 and detailed in exempt appendices 1 and 2.

Resolved:

- (i) That the contents of the report be noted.
- (ii) That the updates in paragraph 4.1, 5.1, 6.1 and 7.1 be noted.
- (iii) That the grant application outlined in paragraph 3.1 and detailed in exempt Appendices 1 and 2 be recommended for approval.

6. Growing Places Fund

The Panel considered a report to update on progress in committing loans through the Growing Places Fund (GPF).

The Growing Places Fund (GPF) began in 2012 offering loans to support projects that required additional capital funding to deliver jobs and economic growth and to unlock stalled developments post-recession, within a timescale of five years or less. The fund was open to all businesses and organisations of any size based in or looking to invest in the Leeds City Region. The Fund typically sought private sector leverage on the basis of 1:3. Any future loans are currently on hold pending the launch of a new investment strategy which is expected later in 2020.

The Panel was asked to note the progress of the Growing Places Fund the information provided in Exempt Appendix 1.

Resolved:

- (i) That the contents of the report be noted.
- (ii) That the information provided in Exempt Appendix 1 be noted.

7. Date of next meeting 6 October 2020

The date of the next meeting is 6 October 2020