

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE  
BUSINESS INVESTMENT PANEL  
HELD ON THURSDAY, 8 APRIL 2021 AT AS A REMOTE MEETING**

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**Present:**

Simon Wright (Deputy Chair)	Yorkshire Bank
Councillor Darren Byford	Wakefield Council
Councillor Jane Scullion	Calderdale Council
Councillor Graham Swift	Harrogate Borough Council
Councillor Peter McBride	Kirklees Council
Michael Allen	NatWest Bank
Colin Glass OBE	WGN
Jonathan King	Medusa Holdings Ltd
Gareth Yates	Amazon

**In attendance:**

Carl Wright	Clive Owen
Brian Archer	West Yorkshire Combined Authority
Neill Fishman	West Yorkshire Combined Authority
Henry Rigg	West Yorkshire Combined Authority
Kate Thompson	West Yorkshire Combined Authority
Janette Woodcock	West Yorkshire Combined Authority
Aaliyah Younis	West Yorkshire Combined Authority

**22. Apologies for absence**

Apologies received from Councillor Shabir Pandor and Councillor Alex Ross-Shaw.

**23. Chair's Comments**

The Chair opened the meeting and on behalf of the Panel thanked Baroness Blake formerly Councillor Blake for her contribution as Chair of the Business Investment Panel.

**24. Declarations of disclosable pecuniary interests**

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

**25. 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 Appendices 1,2,3 and 4 of Agenda item 6

and Appendix 1 of Agenda item 7 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.

**26. Minutes of the meeting of the Business Investment Panel held on 8 December 2020**

**Resolved:** That the minutes of the meeting held on 8 December 2020 be approved and signed by the Chair.

**27. Strategic Inward Investment Fund**

The Panel considered a report outlining the current position regarding progress in committing grants through the Leeds City Region Enterprise Partnership (the LEP) Strategic Inward Investment Fund (SIIF). The Panel was asked to note the update regarding the application considered at the meeting on 8 December 2020 and also the update to the two applications circulated via email in late December.

**Resolved:** That the contents of the Strategic Inward Invest Fund (SIIF) report be noted.

**28. Business Growth Programme**

The Panel considered a report and verbal update to outline the current position regarding progress in committing grants through the Leeds City region Enterprise Partnership (The LEP) Business Growth Programme (BGP), two grant applications 1121367 and 1119848 detailed in exempt Appendices 1,2,3 and 4 and note the update to the applications considered at the meeting on 8 December 2020.

The Panel discussed the two applications in detail and following consideration of the applications agreed not to recommend the approval of 1121367 and to recommend 1119848 for approval subject to agreed criteria.

**Resolved:**

- (i) That the contents of the report be noted.
- (ii) That application 1121367 detailed in exempt Appendix 1 and 2 not be recommended by the Panel for approval.
- (iii) That application 1119848 detailed in exempt Appendix 3 and 4 be recommended by the Panel for approval subject to the agreed criteria.

**29. Growing Places Fund**

The Panel considered a report and verbal update on progress in committing loans through the Growing Places Fund (GPF). The Panel was asked to note the contents of the report and 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.

**30. Date of next meeting 12 May 2021**