

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE
BUSINESS INVESTMENT PANEL
HELD ON THURSDAY, 5 SEPTEMBER 2019 AT COMMITTEE ROOM A -
WELLINGTON HOUSE, LEEDS**

Present:

Councillor Judith Blake CBE (Chair)	Leeds City Council
Councillor Jane Scullion	Calderdale Council
Councillor Graham Swift	Harrogate Borough Council
Colin Glass OBE	Murray Harcourt
Marcus Mills	Principle Group

In attendance:

Phil Cole	Leeds City Council
Alan Reiss	West Yorkshire Combined Authority
Henry Rigg	West Yorkshire Combined Authority
Vincent McCabe	West Yorkshire Combined Authority
Chris Brunold	West Yorkshire Combined Authority
Alexander Clarke	West Yorkshire Combined Authority
Neill Fishman	West Yorkshire Combined Authority
Lorna Holroyd	West Yorkshire Combined Authority
Lauren Thomas	West Yorkshire Combined Authority
Janette Woodcock	West Yorkshire Combined Authority

11. Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Shabir Pandor, Councillor Peter McBride, Councillor Alex Ross Shaw, Councillor Darren Byford, Jonathon King, Michael Allen, Gareth Yates and Simon Wright.

12. Declarations of disclosable pecuniary interests

There were no declarations of disclosable pecuniary interests.

13. 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 of Agenda Item 6, Appendices 1 & 2 of Item 7 and Appendix 1 of Agenda Item 8 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.

14. Minutes of the meeting of the Business Investment Panel held on 12 July 2019

Resolved: That the minutes of the Business Investment Panel held on 12 July 2019 be approved and signed by the Chair.

15. Strategic Inward Investment Fund

The Panel considered a report which outlined the current position regarding progress in committing grants through the Leeds City Region Enterprise Partnership (the LEP) Strategic Inward Investment Fund (SIIF).

An update was provided on previously approved projects to date

It was noted that there were no new grant applications for consideration at this meeting.

Resolved: That the Panel noted the progress of the Strategic Inward Investment Fund (SIIF).

16. Business Growth Programme

The Panel considered a report to outline the current position regarding progress in committing grants through the Leeds City Enterprise Partnership (the LEP) Business Growth Programme (BGP)

The Business Investment Panel was asked to note the changes to the programme criteria, as outlined in section 3 of the report and consider the recommendation to deliver a second round of the Productivity pilot, as outlined in Section 4

Panel Members also considered the application outlined in paragraph 5.1 of the report and detailed in exempt appendices 1 and 2.

Resolved:

- (i) That the Panel noted the changes to the programme criteria.
- (ii) That the Panel considered and provided feedback to the recommendation to deliver a second round of the Productivity Pilot.
- (iii) That the Panel considered the application outlined in 5.1 and recommended the project be approved subject to conditions being met by the applicant..

17. Growing Places Fund loans

The Panel considered a report which provided an update on the progress in committing loans through the Leeds City Enterprise Partnership (the LEP) Growing Places Fund (GPF).

The Panel was updated on the progress of live projects and their current risks, attached at exempt **Appendix 1**.

Resolved:

- (i) That the update on progress on the Growing Places Fund be noted.
- (ii) That the information provided in exempt Appendix 1 on progress of live loans through the Growing Places Fund programme and risks be noted and feedback given.

18. Future Plans, Grants and Loans

The Panel was provided with an update on work on future plans for grants and loans. A verbal update was given at the meeting on progress of the first phase of this work.

Following discussions at the Business Investment Panel on 30 April and 12 July 2019, work on developing options for a new fund that responds to current market needs for business investment has progressed and further information was provided at Exempt Appendix 1.

Resolved:

- (i) That the Panel noted the update and progress on work and future plans.
- (ii) That the Panel noted the information provided in Exempt Appendix 1.
- (iii) That the Panel discussed and provided feedback to inform future activities.

19. Date of next meeting

The next meeting of the Business Investment Panel will be 9 October 2019 at 2pm, in Committee Room A, Wellington House Leeds.