

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE
BUSINESS INVESTMENT PANEL
HELD ON FRIDAY, 5 OCTOBER 2018 AT COMMITTEE ROOM A,
WELLINGTON HOUSE, 40-50 WELLINGTON STREET, LEEDS**

Present:

Councillor Judith Blake CBE (Chair)
Councillor Darren Byford
Councillor Shabir Pandor
Councillor Graham Swift
Councillor Alex Ross-Shaw
Michael Allen
Colin Glass OBE
Marcus Mills

Leeds City Council
Wakefield Council
Kirklees Council
Harrogate Borough Council
Bradford Council (from Minute 32)
NatWest Bank
WGN
BigWord

In attendance:

Henry Rigg
Kate Thompson
David Shepherd

Chris Brunold
Neill Fishman
Lauren Thomas
Khaled Berroum
Megan Hemingway

West Yorkshire Combined Authority
West Yorkshire Combined Authority
West Yorkshire Combined Authority (to
minute 31)
West Yorkshire Combined Authority
West Yorkshire Combined Authority
West Yorkshire Combined Authority
West Yorkshire Combined Authority
West Yorkshire Combined Authority

26. Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Jonathan King, Simon Wright, Gareth Yates and Councillor Tim Swift.

27. Declarations of disclosable pecuniary interests

There were no disclosable pecuniary interests declared by Members at the meeting.

28. 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 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 of Agenda item 7 on the

grounds that it is 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.

29. Minutes of the meeting of the Business Investment Panel held on 31 August 2018

Resolved: That the minutes of the Business Investment Panel held on 31 August 2018 be approved and signed by the Chair.

30. Business Grants Programme

The Panel considered a report which outlined the current position regarding progress in committing grants through the Leeds City Region Enterprise Partnership (the LEP) Business Grants Programme (BGP).

Members were advised that a paper focused on raising the awareness of the capital grants programme to a broader range of businesses, will be submitted to the Panel at the next meeting.

Resolved: That the contents of the Business Grants Programme report be noted.

31. Strategic Inward Investment Fund

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

The Panel requested that a more detailed briefing be produced on Leeds City Region's competitive position on inward investment.

Resolved:

- (i) That the progress on the Strategic Inward Investment Fund be noted.
- (ii) That a more detailed briefing be produced on Leeds City Region's competitive position on inward investment compared to other regions, where data is available.

32. Growing Places Fund loans

The Panel considered a report which provided an update on:

- Progress in committing loans through the LEP Growing Places Fund (GPF).
- The future of the GPF.
- Three projects with changed circumstances.

In respect of Growing Places Fund reinvestment Members discussed the report that had been considered by the LEP Board and was attached as Appendix 1. The Panel asked that a further update report be brought to the December meeting of the Panel.

The Panel considered three projects with changed circumstances which were attached at exempt Appendices 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6.

Resolved:

- (i) That the update on progress in committing loans through the GPF be noted.
- (ii) That the report to the LEP Board on Growing Places Fund reinvestment be noted.
- (iii) That a further update report be brought to the December meeting.
- (iv) That the recommendations in exempt Appendices 2 and 3 (project 113) be forwarded to the Managing Director for approval.
- (v) That the information provided in Appendices 4, 5 and 6 (projects 201 & 315) be noted.

33. Date of next meeting

6 November at 2:00 pm in Committee Room B, Wellington House, Leeds