



Executive Board – 22 July 2020

Conducted via Teams

Minutes of the Midlands Engine Executive Board

In attendance:

Name	Position
Sir John Peace (SJP)	Chairman of the Board
Anthony May (AM)	Chair, Midland Engine Operating Board, Chief Executive, Nottinghamshire County Council
Cllr Bob Sleigh (BS)	West Midlands Councils. Deputy Mayor WMCA
Cllr Simon Geraghty (SG)	West Midlands Councils. Leader, Worcestershire County Council
Cllr Philip Atkins (PA)	West Midlands Councils. Leader, Staffordshire County Council
Cllr Martin Hill (MH)	East Midlands Councils. Leader, Lincolnshire County Council
Cllr Barry Lewis (BL)	East Midlands Councils. Leader, Derbyshire County Council
Cllr Chris Poulter (CP)	East Midlands Councils. Leader, Derby City Council
Kevin Harris (KH)	East Midlands LEPS. Chair, Leicester and Leicestershire LEP
Mark Stansfield (MS)	West Midlands LEPS. Chair, Worcestershire LEP
Prof. Alec Cameron (AC)	Chair, Midlands Innovation Universities. Vice Chancellor Aston University
Prof. Edward Peck (EP)	Chair, Midlands Enterprise Universities. Vice Chancellor, Nottingham Trent University
Rachael Greenwood (RG)	Director, Midlands Engine

Observers:

Maria Machancoses (MM)	Programme Director, Midlands Connect
Nick King (NK)	Midlands Engine Consultant
Rowena Limb (RL)	Regional Director, HMG Cities and Local Growth Unit
Ian Harrison (IH)	Deputy Director, HMG DIT
John Henderson (JH)	Chief Executive, Staffordshire County Council (future Accountable Body)

Guests:

Prof. Delma Dwight (DD)	Director of Economic Intelligence, Black Country Intelligence Unit
Rebecca Riley (RR)	Director, Birmingham CityREDI and Head of Research, WMCA
Sir Norman Lamb (NL)	Strategic Advisory Board Member, Mental Health and Productivity Pilot
Prof. Guy Daly (GD)	Deputy Vice Chancellor, Coventry University.

Apologies:

Cllr David Mellen (DM)	East Midland Councils. Leader, Nottingham City Council
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Item	Narrative
1	Introduction & apologies
	<p>The Chairman welcomed members to the Midlands Engine Executive Board. The Chairman noted that Cllr Atkins intended to step down from the position of Leader, Staffordshire County Council and thanked him for the long terms support and commitment he had personally given to ensure the success of the Midlands Engine.</p> <p>1.1 There were no declarations of interest.</p> <p>1.2 Apologies noted above.</p>
2	Approval of minutes EB20.7.1
	<p>2.1 Approval of the Minutes on the 26 February 2020.</p> <p>The Board approved the minutes from the meeting held 26 February 2020 without amendment.</p> <p>2.1 Matters arising.</p> <p>None recorded.</p>
3.	Chairs Opening Remarks
	<p>The Chairman noted the work of our partnership has continued apace despite current conditions - recognising the important contribution of all partners of the Midlands Engine.</p>
4.	Governance Matters EB20.7.2.
	<p>The Chairman invited RG to deliver a report to Members on Governance for the Midlands Engine.</p> <p>Members noted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The re-election as Chairman by nomination and unanimous support of the Operating Board for AM as the Chairman of the Midlands Engine Operating Board. The Board acknowledged AM's significant contributions to date. • Receipt of the grant determination letter from MHCLG detailing the core funding for Midlands Engine for the period 2020-21. • The progress toward transfer of the Accountable Body.
5.	Partner Presentations EB20.7.3. (See appended slides)
	<p>The Chairman invited presenters (DD and RR) from the Midlands Economic Observatory to provide Board Members with updates on the latest work of the Midlands Engine Observatory with focused reporting on the impact of Covid – 19 on the region's economy.</p> <p>Observations from Board members included:</p>

	<p>MM commented this is phenomenal work and provides the evidence base around a larger narrative for strategy planning for Midlands Connect.</p> <p>Members were provided with clarity on data collection methodologies and satisfied that a wide range of partners were contributing a vast amount of information to ensure the robustness of these comprehensive papers.</p> <p>The Chairman thanked RR and DD for the invaluable work and the support of so many partners in the work of the Midlands Economic Observatory.</p> <p>The Chairman invited representatives from the Mental Health and Productivity Pilot (NL and GD) to present an update on the work to date and future plans for the pilot.</p> <p>Observations from the Board included:</p> <p>Agreement on the importance of this work and Members requested further information to enable further engagement with the Pilot to be circulated to this Board.</p> <p>NL commended the valuable approach of the Midlands Engine Partnership, stating that collectively we had a head start with great partnerships to take forward many important agendas.</p> <p>The Chairman thanked GD and NL – an immensely informative presentation and a very valuable further discussion by Board Members.</p> <p>Action: Further information to be circulated to the Board to enable sharing of information and greater engagement in the pilot by Board member organisations / businesses they represent.</p>
6.	Directors Report - Delivery EB20.7.4
	<p>The Chairman invited RG to present a report updating Members on the implementation of the Midlands Engine Business Plan 2020 – 2021. RG reported significant progress is now being made led by partners from all parts of the Midlands Engine Partnership.</p> <p>RG formally noted, for the minute, that the Business Plan had been agreed by this Board in between meetings, following the cancellation of the April meeting scheduled (due to Covid-19). RG thanked members of the Board for prompt and supportive responses to approve the Business Plan.</p> <p>Members noted the pace of delivery with hugely significant contributions from many different members of the Midlands Engine Partnership.</p> <p>BS asked that RG ensure throughout that duplication of effort was not being undertaken in delivery of the Business Plan.</p> <p>The Chairman thanked RG for her report noting the progress to date drawing attention to significant fiscal event of the CSR and the importance of maintaining momentum in working in partnership to help drive recovery as we come out of the impact of Covid -19.</p>
7.	AOB
	<p>No matters recorded.</p>

8.	<p>Date of next meeting: The next meeting of this Board is scheduled for Wednesday 14 October 2020, 13:00-16:00. Venue to be confirmed.</p>
Actions	
Item	Action:
5	Executive Team to circulate to Board Members further information for the Mental Health and Productivity Pilot.

DRAFT