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## Summary of decisions taken at a meeting of the SELEP Accountability Board, held in Village Hotel Forstal Road, Maidstone, ME14 3AQ on Friday, 20 January 2017

Published with effect from Friday 20 January 2017. Provided a decision has not been called in by close of play on Wednesday 25 January 2017 it can then be implemented.

Please note that this is a summary of decisions taken at the meeting only. A full account of proceedings will appear in the minutes of the meeting which will be published on the Council's website by Tuesday 7 February 2017.

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### Present:

#### Members

Mr Geoff Miles	Chairman
Cllr Rodney Chambers	Medway Council
Cllr Mark Dance	Kent County Council
Cllr Keith Glazier	East Sussex County Council
Cllr Rob Gledhill	Thurrock Council

Councillor Kevin Bentley was unable to attend the meeting due to traffic issues took part in the meeting by speaker phone. Whilst he took part in the discussions, he was unable to vote and therefore did not take part in any of the decision making.

### 1 Welcome and Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received Councillor Paul Carter who was substituted by Councillor Mark Dance, from Councillor John Lamb and from Angela O'Donoghue and Myroulla West.

### 2 Minutes

The Minutes of the meetings held on 18 November were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

### 3 Declarations of Interest

None were made.

### 4 Business Case Approvals

The Accountability Board (the Board) received a report from Rhiannon Mort, and a presentation from Steer Davies Gleave, the purpose of this which was to make the Board aware of the value for money assessment of business cases for schemes having been through the Independent Technical Evaluator (ITE) process to support decision making for Local Growth Funding (LGF) to be devolved to scheme sponsors (county and unitary councils) **subject** to an LGF 3 allocation to the two projects in question.

**Resolved**

**Subject** to an LGF round 3 funding being allocated by the Government and sufficient funds being made available to SELEP by the Government :

1. To **Approve** the allocation of £8.2m of LGF to East Sussex Strategic Growth Project, to support the delivery of the project as identified in the Business Case and which has been assessed as presenting high value for money, but with low to medium certainty of achieving this, subject to the condition set out in paragraph 4.15 of the Report
2. To **Approve** the allocation of £1.6m of LGF to Eastside Business Park, to support the delivery of the project as identified in the Project Business Case and which has been assessed as presenting high value for money, with a medium to high certainty of achieving this.

**Further Resolved**

3. To **Approve** the recommended option 1 for the management and oversight of the £2m LGF spend on the Coastal Communities Group Housing Regeneration Project via the three upper tier authorities; East Sussex County Council, Essex County Council and Kent County Council.

**5 LGF Change Requests**

The Board received a report from Rhiannon Mort the purpose of which was to make the Board aware of changes to the spend forecast for Local Growth Fund (LGF) projects included in SELEPs Growth Deal.

**Resolved**

1. To **Agree** the amended spend forecast for A127 Network Resilience, Essex; and
2. To **Note** the potential risk of the spend profile for A127 Fairglens Junction Improvements extending beyond the current Growth Deal period.

**6 Options For Skills Capital Underspend (Sussex Downs College)**

The Board received a report from Louise Aitken to seek Board approval for utilisation of underspend associated with the Sussex Downs College 'Refurbished Science Facilities' project and of Local Growth Fund (LGF) allocated to colleges.

**Resolved**

To **Approve** Sussex Downs College utilisation of all or some of the underspend to the broader project, enhancing their first floor laboratory with the new STEM

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Centre, subject to a full Business Case being provided and approved by the Board. Any business case would need to meet the requirements of the SELEP Assurance Framework.

**7 Finance Update including 2017/18 Budget**

The Board received a report from Suzanne Bennett the purpose of which was to update the Board on the forecast financial position of the South East Local Enterprise Partnership (SELEP) as at the end of quarter three (December) of the 2016/17 financial year and present the Secretariat Revenue Budget for 2017/18 for agreement.

**Resolved**

1. **To Note** the latest forecast outturn for the Secretariat 2016/17 budget at Table 1 in the report; and
2. **To Agree** the Secretariat budget for 2017/18 at Table 2 in the report, including the local contributions.

**8 Transport Improvements to support The Open Championship**

The Board received a report from Sarah Nurden which described the transport improvements necessary to secure Royal St George's as the venue for the 2020 Open Championship.

**Resolved**

1. **To approve** the draft letter of support to be submitted to the Royal & Ancient Golf Club of St Andrews (the R&A) in relation to the transport improvements at Sandwich Station **subject** to the letter being amended to remove any specific reference to an amount of funding contribution.
2. **To note** the intention for the transport improvements at Sandwich Station project to be considered at a future Board meeting for approval of funding allocation following consideration of the Business Case by the SELEP ITE and identification of an appropriate funding stream.

**9 Urgent Business**

With the agreement of the Chairman, Rhiannon Mort provided the Board with an update regarding M20 Junction 10A. She advised that as agreed at the November meeting, a letter had been sent on behalf of SELEP to the Government. A reply had been received which advised that assurances should be sought from Highways England. Such assurances will be sought and a further update will be provided to the Board at the February meeting.

**10 Dates of Future Meetings**

The following meeting dates were noted by the Board:

Friday 24<sup>th</sup> February 2017

Friday 31<sup>st</sup> March 2017

Friday 26<sup>th</sup> May 2017

There being no urgent business the meeting closed at 11.00 am

**Chairman**