

SUMMARY OF DECISIONS TAKEN AT A MEETING OF THE SELEP ACCOUNTABILITY BOARD HELD AT HIGH HOUSE PRODUCTION PARK, PURFLEET, AT 10.00AM ON 16 SEPTEMBER 2016

Published with effect from Friday 16 September 2016. Provided a decision has not been called in by close of business on Wednesday 21st September 2016 it can then be implemented.

Please note that this is a summary of the 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 4th October 2016.

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Present:

Members

Cllr Rodney Chambers	Medway Council
Cllr Mark Dance	Kent County Council
Cllr David Finch	Essex County Council
Cllr Rupert Simmons	East Sussex Council
Cllr John Lamb	Southend Borough Council
Angela O'Donoghue	FE & Skills (FEDEC)
Myroulla West	Higher Education (HEIs)

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Mr Geoff Miles, Cllr Keith Glazier who was substituted by Councillor Rupert Simmons and Councillor Paul Carter who was substituted by Councillor Mark Dance.

2. Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on Friday 24 June 2016 were agreed as a correct record and signed on behalf of the Chairman.

3. Business Case Approvals including Independent Technical Evaluation

The Board received a report from Rhiannon Mort the purpose of 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 enable funding to be devolved to scheme sponsors (county and unitary councils) as part of the capital programme management.

Resolved:

1. To **approve** the business case for the following scheme which has been assessed as presenting high value for money and demonstrates medium to high certainty of achieving this:
 - A127 Bridge & Highway Maintenance (£1,000,000)
2. To **approve** of the business case for the following scheme which has been assessed as presenting high value for money, but demonstrates low to medium certainty of achieving this:
 - Ashford International Rail Connectivity (£5,627,000)
3. To **approve** the increase in Local Growth Fund (LGF) allocation to Ashford International Rail Connectivity (Ashford Spurs) project from £5,000,000 to £5,627,000.

4. Capital Programme Management

The Board received a report from Rhiannon Mort which updated the Board on the latest position of the Local Growth Deal Capital Programme

Resolved:

1. To **note** the updated spend forecast for 2016/17 and future years of the LGF programme;
2. To **note** the forecast requirement for re-profiling of LGF spend between 2016/17 and future years of the LGF programme;
3. To **note** the LGF projects that have incurred changes under the 10% tolerance; and
4. To **note** the project deliverability and risk assessment.

5. Skills Capital Fund Approval

The Board received report from Adam Bryan which presented recommendations regarding three projects submitted under the auspices of the Skills Capital Building Projects and Equipment fund. As requested by board members at the special Accountability Board on 24th June 2016, two projects were resubmitted for consideration. A third project, erroneously overlooked during the last bidding round, has also been subject to assessment.

Resolved:

1. To **approve** the allocation of £116,783 from the fund to the Harlow College, E-Hub - for supporting Enterprise and Entrepreneurship.
2. To **approve** the allocation of £223,798 from the fund to Canterbury College, Swale Campus Construction Extension – to meet local and regional skills needs around the construction sector; subject to an acceptable outcome from the completion of an independent technical/financial appraisal of the project.

3. To **note that in considering 1 and 2 above** The bid does not meet the match funding requirement of 50% as it is requesting funding at 90% of the total cost; and
4. To **note that in considering 1 and 2 above** The bid does not meet the minimum score required for a compelling case of 130/144 with a score of 82.
5. To **agree** that any overspend arising from an over-allocation of the Skills Capital pot is funded by headroom in the broader Local Growth Fund programme and managed as part of the overall approach to LGF capital programme management. It should be noted that an approval of 2.1.2 to the amount requested will result in an over-allocation of the fund of £14,661.
6. To **decline** the application for funding of £112,159 by the Creative Skills, Touring Technical Theatre Masterclasses on the basis of it not meeting the minimum scoring threshold for funding of 72, with a score of only 18 out of 144.

6. Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for Enterprise Zones

The Board received a report from Adam Bryan which informed the Board of the requirement for Local Authorities, LEPs and central Government to agree a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for North Kent Innovation Zone by the end of September 2016, and to seek approval for the Managing Director of the SELEP to approve the final MOU

Resolved:

1. To **note** the requirement for Local Authorities, LEPs and central Government to agree a North Kent Innovation Zone MOU by 26th September 2016;
2. To **recommend** that SELEP, via the Accountable Body enter into the North Kent Innovation Zone MOU; and
3. To **agree** to delegate to the SELEP Managing Director authority to finalise the terms and conditions of the final MOU for North Kent Innovation Zone, which will commit SELEP to support and assist development and delivery of the Enterprise Zone
4. To **agree** to delegate authority to the SELEP Managing Director and Accountable Body authority to sign the MOU once a final MOU has been prepared and agreed by all parties.

7. Dates of Future Meetings

Members noted that the date of future meetings of the Board

- 18 November
- 20 January 2017

The meeting closed at 10.57am