



Black Country Executive Joint Committee  
Dudley, Sandwell, Walsall and Wolverhampton

## **BLACK COUNTRY EXECUTIVE JOINT COMMITTEE**

**Wednesday 5 December 2018, 9.30am**

**To be held at Dudley Council**

### **PUBLIC MINUTES**

#### **VOTING MEMBERS**

Councillor Qadar Zada, Dudley MBC  
Councillor Syeda Khatun, Sandwell MBC (sub)  
Councillor Mike Bird, Walsall MBC  
Councillor Roger Lawrence, Wolverhampton CC

#### **NON VOTING MEMBERS**

Chris Handy, Black Country LEP Board

#### **IN ATTENDANCE**

Sarah Norman, Dudley MBC  
Jan Britton, Sandwell MBC  
Dr Helen Paterson, Walsall MBC (Secretary)  
Tim Johnson, Wolverhampton CC  
Sarah Middleton, The Black Country Consortium Ltd

#### **INVITED GUESTS**

Dr Alison Knight, Sandwell MBC

#### **1. Appointment of Chairperson for this meeting**

Decision 18/0070

It was resolved that Councillor Qadar Zada Chair this meeting.

#### **2. Appointment of Vice-Chairperson for 2018/19**

Decision 18/0071

It was resolved that Councillor Mike Bird, Leader of Walsall Council be the Vice-Chairperson for 2018/19.

**3. Apologies**

Cllr Steve Eling, Sandwell MBC  
Chris Handy, Black Country LEP Board  
Ninder Johal, Black Country LEP Board

**4. Notes of Previous Meeting held on 26 September 2018**

Decision 18/0072

It was resolved that the notes of the meeting held on 26 September 2018 be agreed.

**5. Matters Arising from the notes of the previous meeting**

Decision 18/0073

None

**6. Declarations of Interest**

None

**7. Local Government (Access to Information) Act, 1985 (as amended):**

To agree that the public be excluded from the private session during consideration of the agenda items indicated for the reasons shown on the agenda.

None.

**8. Black Country Local Growth Deal – Growing Priority Sectors – Valent Applications Ltd, Willenhall – Approval to move to Contracting – Dr Alison Knight**

Dr Alison Knight was present and referred to the report previously circulated which is a request for £83,264 for a £277,547 project to purchase a new CNC machining cell. The company does not currently have this machinery/plant and therefore outsources the work to another supplier. The following conditions are also requested:

- Maximum grant of £83,264 to help implement a £277,547 project;
- Leverage £194,283 of Private Sector Funding;
- Create nine new jobs and two apprenticeships by March 2021;
- Confirmation of match funding to successfully deliver this project.

Decision 18/0074

It was resolved that the BCJC:

- 2.1 approve for Sandwell Council to move to contracting with Valent Applications Ltd for a funding allocation of £83,264 (from the Growing Priority Sectors programme of works totalling £8.627m), to deliver the Local Growth Fund (LGF) funded elements of the Growing Priority Sectors Valent Applications Ltd project - with delivery to commence in the 2018/19 financial year.
- 2.2 This request is for £83,264.

**9. Black Country Local Growth Deal – Growing Priority Sectors – UK Rubber & Plastics Ltd, Rowley Regis – Approval to move to Contracting**

Dr Alison Knight was present and referred to the report previously circulated which is a request for £50,000 for £166,000 project to purchase a new digital water-cutting machine. The machine will enable the company to gain additional business and increase production. The following conditions are also requested:

- Maximum grant of £50,000 to help implement a £166,000 project;
- Leverage £116,000 of Private Sector Funding;
- Create four new jobs plus an apprenticeship by March 2021;
- Confirmation of match funding to successfully deliver this project.

Decision 18/0075

It was resolved that the BCJC:

- 2.1 approve for Sandwell Council to move to contracting with UK Rubber & Plastics Ltd for a funding allocation of £50,000 (from the Growing Priority Sectors programme of works totalling £8.627m), to deliver the Local Growth Fund (LGF) funded elements of the Growing Priority Sectors UK Rubber & Plastics Ltd project - with delivery to commence in the 2018/19 financial year.
- 2.2 This request is for £50,000.

**10. Delegated Authority - Black Country Local Growth Deal- Growing Priority Sectors – RP Technologies Ltd – For Noting**

Simon Neilson was present and referred to the report previously circulated.



**Black Country Executive Joint Committee**  
Dudley, Sandwell, Walsall and Wolverhampton

RP Technologies Ltd have completed the spend on their project and the total number of payments made to the company will exceed the sum of £79,631.72.

Decision 18/0076

It was resolved that the BCJC:

- 2.1 note that the Executive Director for Economy and Environment within Walsall Council in his role of Chair of the City Deal and Growth Deal Working Group has used his Delegated Authority to approve the Accountable Body for the Growth Deal (Walsall Council) to proceed to amending the existing Grant Agreement with Growing Priority Sectors for RP Technologies Ltd to reflect an increased grant award of £1,029 to deliver the Local Growth Fund (LGF) elements of the Growing Priority Sectors project, with delivery to commence in the 2018/19 financial year. Approval of this change was achieved by BC LEP Board on 22 October 2018.
- 2.2 The need to use delegated authority was identified as RP Technologies Ltd completed the spend on their project earlier this year. It has now become apparent that the total number of payments made to the company are to the sum of £79,631.72, which exceeds the amount approved by £1,029.