



BLACK COUNTRY EXECUTIVE JOINT COMMITTEE

Wednesday 27 June 2018, 12.00pm

To Be Held at:

Sandwell Council,
Committee Room 2

MINUTES

VOTING MEMBERS

Councillor Patrick Harley, Dudley MBC
Councillor Steve Eling, Sandwell MBC
Councillor Adrian Andrew, Walsall MBC (sub)
Councillor Roger Lawrence, Wolverhampton CC

NON VOTING MEMBERS

Stewart Towe, Black Country LEP Board

IN ATTENDANCE

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

INVITED GUESTS

Alan Lunt, Dudley MBC
Alison Knight, Sandwell MBC
Simon Neilson, Walsall MBC
Tim Johnson, Wolverhampton CC

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1. **Apologies**
Councillor Mike Bird (Walsall)

 2. **Appointment of Chair and Vice-Chair for 2018-19**

18/0025 **It was resolved that :**
Cllr Eling, Leader of Sandwell be Chairperson for 2018/19 municipal year with Councillor Harley, Leader of Dudley be Vice Chairperson for 2018/19 municipal year.

 3. **18/0026** **Notes of Previous Meeting held on 11 April 2018.**

It was resolved that:
The Notes of the meeting held on 11 April 2018 be confirmed as a true record.

 4. **Matters Arising from the notes of the previous meeting.**
None.

 5. **Declarations of Interest**
None

 6. **18/0027** **Local Government (Access to Information) Act, 1985 (as amended):**
It was agreed that the public be excluded from the private session during consideration of agenda Item 25 - Black Country Local Growth Deal - **M6 JUNCTION**
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10 (MAJOR SCHEME) – COMPLIANCE WITH BCLEP ASSURANCE FRAMEWORK -

Not for publication by virtue of paragraph 3 of Schedule 12(A) of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended)

7. 18/0028 Timetable of Meetings for 2018-19**It was resolved that the BCJC:**

- 2.1 Approve the timetable of meetings for 2018/19 as set out in **Appendix A** of the report.
- 2.2 Approve the Forward Plan Publication dates for 2018/19 as set out in **Appendix B** of the report

8. 18/0029 Nominations to Outside Bodies 2018-19**It was resolved that:**

Councillor Roger Lawrence would continue as the Black Country representative for another 2 years (until June 2020) on the Black Country European Strategic Investment Fund committee,

9. 18/0030 Black Country Investment Fund (City Deal) – Release of Individual Local Authority Funding Allocations – Approval for release of Funding Allocations

Sarah Middleton presented the report and advised that Due to the limited take up of the fund, the Black Country Local Authorities have made an ask to BEIS, via the Black Country Consortium Ltd Programme Management Office (PMO) and the Accountable Body for City Deal (Walsall Council), to remove the obligation on each Authority to hold £2.5m in capital reserves against the BCIF

18/0030 It was resolved that the BCJC:

- 2.1 approves for each of the four Black Country Local Authorities to remove the obligation on each Authority to provide £2.5m of investment through the Black Country Investment Fund – part of the City Deal.
- 2.2 approves the revised arrangements proposed by BEIS for the provision of Local Authority match funding:
 - I. That local authorities can operate on a loan by loan basis consistent with the terms of the ‘deal’.
 - II. When a loan under the scheme is approved, access to the Black Country Investment Fund / PWLB loan facility will be dependent upon a matching local authority capital contribution of at 30% of the value of the PWLB loan requested.

- III. That local authority capital contributions can be in-kind resources, in the form of a matching loan or grant, or a direct capital contribution to the capital works (rather than awarding funding to a 3rd party).

10. **Black Country Local Growth Deal - Black Country Growth Hub Grant Funding Agreement Approval 2018/19**

Sarah Middleton presented the report and advised that Following a mention in the Industrial Strategy White Paper, further funding from BEIS until March 2020 at the same level as 2016-2018 was confirmed by Ministers in a letter to all LEP chairs in January 2018. Walsall Council will receive funding of £328,000 per annum from BEIS to operate the Black Country Growth Hub until March 2020, with the prospect of further funding beyond that date to be agreed through the Black Country LEP. It is now proposed that Black Country Consortium Ltd will manage the grant on behalf of Walsall Council through the Black Country Growth Hub Strategic Board. Day to day activity will be administered by the Head of the Black Country Growth Hub, employed by the Black Country Consortium. On 14th May 2018 Walsall Council received the official offer letter from BEIS confirming the funding for the 2018-19 financial year.

- 18/0031** **It was resolved that the BCJC:** approve for the Accountable Body for the Growth Deal (Walsall Council) to proceed to a **Grant Agreement to the value of £328,000, with the Black Country Consortium Ltd** to deliver the Black Country Growth Hub Funding for 2018/19.

11. **Black Country Local Growth Deal – Changes to the Growth Deal Programme - Approval of the Projected 2017/18 Year End Position**

Sarah Middleton presented the report and advised that report details the current position of the Growth Deal Projects, reflecting all changes to the Programme (Funding and Outputs) which have been considered and approved by the LEP Board and Joint Committee throughout the year

- 18/0032** **It was resolved that the BCJC** approve the current position of the Growth Deal Projects, reflecting all changes to the Programme (Funding and Outputs) throughout the year and, to maximise the 2017/18 Growth Deal allocation expenditure, requests approval for various changes detailed in attachment 1 of the report:

12. **Black Country Local Growth Deal – City North Gateway Phase 1 – Change request Capital Funding – Amendment to Existing Grant Agreement**

Stuart Everton presented the report and advised that both Wolverhampton Interchange project and City North Gateway Phase 1 (M54 Junction 2 to Vine Island) are approved Growth Deal schemes sponsored by Wolverhampton City Council.

As set out in the report, this proposal is to accelerate £4,003,000 of funding allocated to City North Gateway Phase 1 in 2018/19 into 2017/18 and award to the Interchange project.

18/0033 It was resolved that the BCJC:

- 2.1 approves for the Accountable Body for the Growth Deal (Walsall Council) to **proceed to amend the existing Grant Agreement with Wolverhampton City Council for the City North Gateway Phase 1 (M54 Junction 2 to Vine Island) project - to reflect an amended Grant Award of £2,368,000** in 2017/18 (this is a reduction in the overall funding award of £4,003,000) to deliver the Local Growth Fund (LGF) funded elements of the City North Gateway Phase 1 (M54 Junction 2 to Vine Island) project with delivery to commence in the 2017/18 financial year.
- 2.2 Note that the reduction in the overall funding award for City North Gateway Phase 1 will result in a transfer of funding to the Wolverhampton Interchange project in the current financial year. This is a provision to ensure achievement of year-end spend on the 2017/18 Growth Deal programme. Note that the amended Grant Award for Wolverhampton Interchange is conditional upon the completion of the Interchange Contribution Agreement between Wolverhampton City Council and the West Midlands Combined Authority. This funding amendment is to be included in the agreement, which is due shortly for completion.
- 2.3 Note that the current grant intervention rate for the City North Gateway phase 1 project is 88%. A reduction in funding award of £4,003,000 will result in a revised grant intervention rate of 33%.

13.

Black Country Local Growth Deal – Wolverhampton Interchange – Change Request - Amendment to Existing Grant Agreement

Stuart Everton presented the report and advised that both Wolverhampton Interchange project and City North Gateway Phase 1 (M54 Junction 2 to Vine Island) are approved Growth Deal schemes sponsored by Wolverhampton City Council.

As set out in the report, this proposal is to accelerate £4,003,000 of funding allocated to City North Gateway Phase 1 in 2018/19 into 2017/18 and award to the Wolverhampton Interchange project.

18/0034 It was resolved that the BCJC:

- 2.1 That the Joint Committee approves for the Accountable Body for the Growth Deal (Walsall Council) to **proceed to amend the existing Grant Agreement with Wolverhampton City Council for the Wolverhampton Interchange project to reflect an amended Grant Award of £4,003,000** in 2017/18.
- 2.2 Note that the value of this additional funding award is subject to the year-end expenditure position of the City North Gateway phase 1 project. This is a provision to ensure achievement of year-end spend on the 2017/18 Growth Deal programme.
- 2.3 Note that the amended Grant Award is conditional upon the completion of the Contribution Agreement, between the Wolverhampton City Council and the West Midlands Combined Authority. This funding amendment is to be included in the agreement which is due shortly for completion.

- 2.4 Note that the original grant intervention rate for the Wolverhampton Interchange project was 27%. Following an increase to overall project costs, the current grant intervention rate for Wolverhampton Interchange project is 16%. If additional funding of £4,003,000 is awarded, the revised grant intervention rate will be 21%.

14. **Black Country Local Growth Deal – Woods Lane, Change Request – Amendment to Existing Grant Agreement**

Jan Britton presented the report.

18/0035 It was resolved that the BCJC:

- 2.1 That the Joint Committee approve for the Accountable Body for the Growth Deal (Walsall Council) to proceed to **amending the existing Grant Agreement with Sandwell Council** to deliver the Local Growth Fund (LGF), funded elements of the Woods Lane project, with delivery to commence in the 2018/19 financial year.
- 2.2 This change relates to a reduction of scope.
- 2.3 Note the Change Request as detailed below from FSG 2nd May 2018:
- a) Increase the funding to demolish Stamping Press on site from £443k to £718k (due to the additional asbestos identified), which would not impact on the overall funding package;
 - b) Complete the demolition of Stamping Press, and close the project by September 2018 (ideally, contracts to be in place by 31/03/18 to enable contractual commitments to be claimed against 2017/18 Grant year);
 - c) Confirm £371,011 of unspent Growth Deal Grant Award would not be required; and
 - d) Amend the contracted Outputs from Direct and Contracted, to indirect non-contracted as per the table in section 2.1 of the Change Request document.

15. **Black Country Local Growth Deal – Growing Priority Sectors – Individual Project Decision - Advanced Direct Mail Ltd, Netherton - Approval to Move to Contracting**

Jan Britton presented the report and advised that a request for £250,000 for an £820,000 project to install an automated mail packing line that will incorporate the use of environmentally sustainable materials. A profile of the application with the appraiser's comments, scores and recommendations can be found in the May 2018 LEP Funding Sub Group paper.

18/0036 It was resolved that the BCJC approves for Sandwell Council to move to contracting with Advanced Direct Mail Ltd for a funding allocation of £205,000 (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 Advanced Direct Mail Ltd project - with delivery to commence in the 2018/19 financial year.

16. **Black Country Local Growth Deal – Growing Priority Sectors – Individual Project Decision - AIB Foods Ltd, Wolverhampton – Approval to Move to Contracting**

Jan Britton presented the report and advised that a request for £150,000 for a £750,000 project to bring in-house the manufacture of food products currently manufactured in the Netherlands. A profile of the application with the appraiser's comments, scores and recommendations can be found in the April 2018 LEP Funding Sub Group Paper.

18/0037 It was resolved that the BCJC approves for Sandwell Council to move to contracting with AIB Foods Ltd for a funding allocation of £105,000 (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 AIB Foods Ltd project - with delivery to commence in the 2018/19 financial year.

17. **Black Country Local Growth Deal – Growing Priority Sectors – Individual Project Decision - Allen's Crankshafts Ltd, Wolverhampton – Approval to Move to Contracting**

Jan Britton presented the report and advised that the aim of the project is to buy an ex-demonstrator DMG Mori NT4300 DCG/ 1000S machine. ACL will be the sole UK distributor of Saenz conrods and Saenz will be the sole distributor of ACL crankshafts in the US. This is a unique partnership with a UK crankshaft and US conrods manufacturer complimenting the products in their respective markets. Both will become international suppliers/ exporters.

18/0038 It was resolved that the BCJC approves for Sandwell Council to move to contracting with Allen's Crankshafts Ltd for a funding allocation of £60,000 (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 Allen's Crankshafts Ltd project - with delivery to commence in the 2018/19 financial year.

18. **Black Country Local Growth Deal – Growing Priority Sectors – Individual Project Decision - Somers Forge Ltd, Halesowen – Approval to Move to Contracting**

Jan Britton presented the report and advised that This project involves the complete refurbishment of an existing furnace to an Aerospace standard. This will significantly increase the scope of use for this forge furnace. Measuring equipment will be purchased to accommodate accurate measuring to tighter tolerance components being manufactured. New tooling for existing lathes will also be purchased to achieve the enhanced machining capability for the increased complexity of the manufactured products. As a result, Somers Forge Ltd is committed to creating 8 new jobs and 2 apprenticeships at an average salary of £30,100 p.a. by 2021.

18/0039 It was resolved that the BCJC approves for Sandwell Council to move to contracting with Somers Forge Ltd for a funding allocation of £58,000 (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 Somers Forge Ltd project - with delivery to commence in the 2018/19 financial year.

19. **Black Country Local Growth Deal – Growing Priority Sectors – Individual Project Decision - Total Power Group Ltd, Brierley Hill – Approval to Move to Contracting**

Jan Britton presented the report and advised that approves for Sandwell Council to move to contracting with Somers Forge Ltd for a funding allocation of £58,000 (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 Somers Forge Ltd project - with delivery to commence in the 2018/19 financial year.

18/0040 It was resolved that the BCJC approves for Sandwell Council to proceed to a Grant Agreement with Total Power Group 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 Total Power Group Ltd project - with delivery to commence in the 2018/19 financial year.

20. **Black Country Local Growth Deal – Growing Priority Sectors – Individual Project Decision - Energy Saving Glass Ltd, Kingswinford – Approval to Move to Contracting**

Jan Britton presented the report and advised that A request for £200,000 for a £1,045,000 project to invest in the plant so that the company doesn't have to buy in toughened glass. A profile of the application with the appraiser's comments, scores and recommendations can be found in the May 2018 LEP Funding Sub Group Paper.

18/0041 It was resolved that the BCJC approves for Sandwell Council to move to contracting with Energy Saving Glass Ltd for a funding allocation of £200,000 (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 Energy Saving Glass Ltd project - with delivery to commence in the 2018/19 financial year.

21. **Black Country Local Growth Deal – Growing Priority Sectors – Individual Project Decision – Frameclad Ltd, Kingswinford – Approval to Move to Contracting**

Jan Britton presented the report and advised that The £100,000 Grant Request would enable purchasing of two framing machines and operating tables in order to provide new capabilities and additional capacity for the manufacture of light gauge steel components and systems, for use in the construction industry. Key products include

the manufacture of: assembled panels, multi-storey self-supporting buildings, additional floors for existing structures, and single storey buildings.

- 18/0042** It was resolved that the **BCJC** approves for **Sandwell Council to move to contracting with Frameclad Ltd for a funding allocation of £100,000** (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 Frameclad Ltd project - with delivery to commence in the 2018/19 financial year.

22. Land and Property Investment Fund – **National Brownfield Institute Seed Funding – Grant Agreement Approval**

Mark Taylor presented the report and advised that the application requests support to secure a dedicated Strategic level resource (Programme Director with related design & development costs) to accelerate the development of the National Brownfield Institute from Concept through into pre-delivery status. The Programme Director would be charged with taking the NBI scheme's vision and ambitions through to a high-level delivery plan, supported by key stakeholders, that provides a Regional and National resource within an iconic setting on the Springfield site that is aligned to School of Architecture and Built Environment (SOABE) and Brownfield Research and Innovation Centre (BRIC) centres of excellence. The vision for the NBI is to create a world-class industry cluster in Brownfield regeneration, based at the University of Wolverhampton's Springfield site.

- 18/0043** It was resolved that the **BCJC** approves for the Accountable Body for the Land and Property Investment Fund (Wolverhampton City Council) to proceed to a **grant agreement with University of Wolverhampton to the value of £500,000** to deliver the Land and Property Investment Fund, funded elements of the National Brownfield Institute Seed Funding Project – with delivery to commence in the 2018/19 financial year.

23. Land and Property Investment Fund – **Springfield Phase 1 Infrastructure and Remediation – Grant Agreement Approval**

Mark Taylor presented the report and advised that the application relates to a funding request of £4.42 million in the form of an LPIF grant as a contribution from the Black Country LEP towards delivery of 2.28 ha of serviced and remediated development land within the Springfield Campus site. The project is closely linked to the School of Architecture and Built Environment (SOABE) proposals, in that the proposed infrastructure will service SOABE together with the proposed future development sites. This will provide a comprehensive solution which will enhance the previous proposals relating to SOABE servicing and remove the likelihood of further disruption to SOABE services upon the delivery of future phases of the scheme.

- 18/0044** It was resolved that the **BCJC** approves for the Accountable Body for the Land and Property Investment Fund (Wolverhampton City Council) to proceed to a **Grant Agreement with University of Wolverhampton to the value of £4,420,000** to deliver the Land and Property Investment Fund, funded elements of the Springfield Phase 1

Infrastructure and Remediation project - with delivery to commence in the 2018/19 financial year.

24. **Black Country Local Growth Deal – School of Architecture and Built Environment – Report for Noting**

Mark Taylor presented the report.

18/0045 It was resolved that the BCJC:

- 2.1 approve the **removal of the School of Architecture and Built Environment project, from within the Growth Deal programme.**
- 2.2 That the Joint Committee note the removal of this scheme will create capacity of £3,520,000 within Growth Deal.

PRIVATE SESSION

25. **Black Country Local Growth Deal – M6 Junction 10 (Major Scheme) – Compliance with BCLEP Assurance Framework**
(Not for publication by virtue of paragraph 3 of Schedule 12(A) of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended))

Simon Neilson presented the report.

18/0046 It was resolved that the BCJC note the contents of the report; and based on these details, accept that through the processes, procedures and work outlined, that the requirements of the Black Country LEP Assurance Framework have been and will continue to be met.