

Business Board Annual Report and Delivery Plan

To: Business Board

Meeting Date: 10 November 2020

Public Report: Yes

Lead Member: Austen Adams, Chair of the Business Board

From: John T Hill, Director for Business & Skills

Key decision: No

Recommendations: The Business Board is recommended to:

- a) Approve the Business Board Annual Report for 2019-20 & Annual Delivery Plan for 2020-21; and
- b) Recommend the Combined Authority Board approves the Business Board Annual Report for 2019-20 & Annual Delivery Plan for 2020-21, and for these to be published and formally submitted to the Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy (BEIS).

1. Purpose

- 1.1 The Business Board, as the region's Local Enterprise Partnership, are required to publish an Annual Report on their activities in the previous 12 months alongside a Delivery Plan setting out their ambitions for the coming year.
- 1.2 The Annual Report & Delivery Plan focuses on aspects for which the Business Board is responsible, including Local Growth Funds, Local Industrial Strategy, Sector Strategies and Enterprise Zones. However, as the work of the Business Board is integrated fully into the Combined Authority, the Annual Report & Delivery Plan covers all aspects of the Business and Skills Directorate delivery, including the University of Peterborough, Adult Education and Market Towns. Therefore, approval is also being requested from the Combined Authority Board for the documents to be published and formally submitted to BEIS.
- 1.3 Normally this report and plan would be presented at the Business Board's Annual General Meeting in May however, due to COVID, this was delayed to November while the approach to crisis response and recovery was developed so as not to present an immediately outdated plan.
- 1.4 The Business Board Annual Delivery Plan for 2020-21 is included as Appendix 1 and the Annual Report for 2019-20 is included as Appendix 2 to this report.

2. Background

- 2.1 The Business Board is required to produce an Annual Report & Delivery Plan each year in line with the National Local Growth Assurance Framework. This was a new requirement for the 2019-20 financial year and so the Business Board approved its first Annual Delivery Plan in May 2019.
- 2.2 This is therefore the first year to include an Annual Report, setting out how the Business Board has performed against the plan for 2019-20, alongside the Annual Delivery Plan for 2020-21.
- 2.3 The Business and Skills Annual Report & Delivery Plan has been delayed from their usual agenda slot at the May Annual General Meeting due to the COVID crisis and the ensuing need to review and re-prioritise the Business Board's interventions.
- 2.4 The Business Board's officers queried with BEIS whether the report should be extended to cover 2021-22, given the delay in publication of the Plan, but were informed that the report should continue to cover only 2020-21 and that a new report and plan should then be presented in line with the normal timescales in May 2021.

Significant Implications

3. Financial Implications

- 3.1 There are no direct financial implications.

4. Legal Implications

4.1 There are no direct financial implications.

5. Other Significant Implications

5.1 There are no other significant implications.

6. Appendices

6.1 Appendix 1 – Business Board Annual Delivery Plan 2020-21

6.2 Appendix 2 – Business Board Annual Report 2019-20

7. Background Papers

For Information - Business Board Annual Delivery Plan for 2019/20:

<https://cambridgeshirepeterborough-ca.gov.uk/assets/Uploads/Cambridgeshire-Peterborough-Annual-Delivery-Plan-2019-20-002.pdf>