

<b>BUSINESS BOARD</b>	<b>AGENDA ITEM No: 1.5</b>
<b>27 JANUARY 2020</b>	<b>PUBLIC REPORT</b>

## **BUSINESS ADVISORY PANEL UPDATE**

### **1.0 PURPOSE**

- 1.1 To provide an update on the Business Advisory Panel (BAP) meeting on 15th January 2020 and to consider and approve inviting additional members.

<b><u>DECISION REQUIRED</u></b>	
<b>Lead Member:</b>	<b>Austen Adams, Interim Chair of Business Board</b>
<b>Lead Officer:</b>	<b>John T Hill</b>
<b>Forward Plan Ref: N/A</b>	<b>Key Decision: No</b>
<p>The Business Board is recommended to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) Note the minutes of the Business Advisory Panel meeting held on 15<sup>th</sup> January 2020 (Appendix 1)</li> <li>(b) Approve the amended Terms of Reference for the Business Advisory Panel (Appendix 2)</li> <li>(c) Agree that Cambridge Network and Cambridge Ahead should be invited to be members of the Business Advisory Panel.</li> </ul>	

### **2.0 BACKGROUND**

- 2.1 The Business Advisory Panel [BAP] was formed to fulfil the following functions:

- To serve as a consultative business group that is representative of the business community, to inform the Combined Authority Business Board, Combined Authority and partners on the issues, needs and opportunities facing the Combined Authority area's business community.

- To consider and review the Local Industrial Strategy and provide practical business feedback and guidance to the Combined Authority on its prioritisation, development and effective implementation.
- To comment to the Combined Authority on the Local Industrial Strategy implementation and the Growth Hub activity.
- To support the Business Board with representation from a local, membership-based business community in a transparent and apolitical manner.

2.2 The BAP met on 15<sup>th</sup> January 2020 and the minutes of the meeting are attached as Appendix 1. The Business Board are asked to note the following:

- a) The BAP are committed to improving Business Representation on the Panel by including organisations such as Cambridge Network and/or Cambridge Ahead. Business Representation covering the Peterborough Business community is also a gap to be addressed.
- b) The BAP will assist the Business Board fully by acting as a two-way link to their members by enlisting input/support from their members on any matters of interest to Business Board or priority topics being discussed with HMG Government Departments with immediate effect.
- c) The BAP will also provide supporting evidence when making actionable recommendations to the Business Board.
- d) The Terms of Reference for BAP been refreshed accordingly as per Appendix 2 and are recommended for approval by the Business Board.
- e) The BAP members have fed back that the outcome from the General Election has restored an element of business certainty across their respective members. However, all Businesses are watchful as the new Government beds down and Brexit transition start to ramp up.

### **3.0 ADDITIONAL MEMBERS**

3.1 The Business Advisory Panel comprises of local representatives of the following organisations:

- Cambridgeshire Chambers of Commerce
- Institute of Directors
- National Farmers Union
- Make UK
- Federation of Small Businesses
- Allia Business Centres
- Confederation of British Industry
- Stuart Gibbons (Chair) – MD Le Mark Group and DIT Exporting Champion

3.2 To strengthen our communication channels into all local businesses, the following organisations could be appropriate additional members of the Business Advisory Panel:

- Cambridge Network
- Cambridge Ahead

3.3 Appendix 3 details more information on each organisation for the Board to consider and approve their inclusion to the Business Advisory Panel.

#### **4.0 SIGNIFICANT IMPLICATIONS**

4.1 There are no significant implications.

#### **5.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

5.1 There are no direct financial implications.

#### **6.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

6.1 There are no direct legal implications.

#### **7.0 IMPLICATIONS FOR NATURE**

7.1 There are no direct implications for nature.

#### **8.0 APPENDICES**

8.1 **Appendix 1** –Minutes of the BAP Meeting on 15<sup>th</sup> January 2020  
**Appendix 2** – Amended Business Advisory Panel Terms of Reference  
**Appendix 3** - Additional Members Information Sheet

<b><u>Background Papers</u></b>	<b><u>Location</u></b>
None	N/A