



Swindon and Wiltshire Local Enterprise Partnership Area ESI Funds Sub-Committee

**Minutes of meeting held 27th February 2019
Committee Rooms B&C, Monkton Park, Chippenham, SN15 1ER**

Agenda:

1. Welcome and introduction
2. Minutes of 30th April 2018 meeting and progress of actions
3. Managing Authority Programme Update
4. ESF Managing Authority Update
5. EAFRD Managing Authority Update
6. LEP Update
7. ERDF Managing Authority Update
8. ERDF Projects Assessments
9. ERDF Project Change Request
10. ERDF Application Update
11. Any other business

1. Welcome and introduction

- 1.1 The Chair welcomed members to the Swindon & Wiltshire Local Enterprise Partnership area ESI Funds sub-committee meeting.
- 1.2 The Chair noted apologies from Paul Clark, John Mortimer, Paddy Bradley and Peter Wragg.
- 1.3 The Sub-committee were advised that Ian Durston was deputising for Paddy Bradley.
- 1.4 Ian Durston declared a conflict of interest – the Swindon and Wiltshire Growth Hub, agenda item 8.4.

2. Minutes of 30th April 2018 meeting and progress of actions

- 2.1 The Chair had contacted the secretariat requesting a small amendment to the minutes of the 30th April 2018 which will be actioned.

3. Managing Authority Programme Update

- 3.1 ERDF MA gave an overview of the programme.
- 3.2 In the More Developed area, PA1, PA2 and PA3 axes are due to meet their 2018 performance targets and also the programme overall is due to meet the 2018 N+3 target. If

target spend is not reached on any specific axis, a 6% performance reserve will not be released for that axis.

The Sub-committee were advised that the meeting would now move to item 5 on the agenda – EAFRD Managing Authority Update and then return to item 4 – ESF Managing Authority Update later in the meeting.

5. EAFRD Managing Authority Update

5.1 EAFRD MA sent their apologies so a paper update only was provided.

5.2 Action: The programme manager from Wiltshire Council to contact EAFRD MA to request more detailed information about unsuccessful applications.

6. LEP Update

The S&Wilts LEP provided an update as to items of relevant interest.

6.1 Julian Head updated the Sub-committee on the UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF) and confirmed that consultation is awaited on the shape and size of the fund.

6.2 MA reminded committee members to engage with future consultation events and to feed in any lessons learnt from their current experience of the programme.

6.3 As from 14th January 2019, the LEP was incorporated as a limited company.

6.4 The Sub-committee were updated on progress relating to the local industrial strategy.

7. ERDF Managing Authority Update

The ERDF Managing Authority summarised progress as detailed on the dashboard.

7.1 In PA1, three projects have so far been contracted and are delivering to programme. Porton Science Park had its official opening in September 2018.

7.2 In PA3, three projects have so far been contracted with claims now well advanced. One contract for Inward Investment, one full application for Workspace and one full application for International Trade are currently being progressed. There are also two outline assessments for the Swindon and Wiltshire Growth Hub and High Value Manufacturing Advisory Support being brought to the current meeting.

7.3 Action: In PA4, no projects have yet been contracted. ERDF MA will seek further advice about what other measures we can consider to encourage submissions.

7.4 In PA9, the Swindon and Wiltshire TA project has been contracted and claims are being submitted. A continuation project is currently being applied for.

4. ESF Managing Authority Update

4.1 ESF Managing Authority summarised the current position as detailed in the meeting papers circulated.

4.2 The 2018 N+3 spend target is now due to be met. The Performance Framework financial target is also on track to being reached so that the performance money can be unlocked. Due to the exchange rate changes there is currently an extra £1.9 million to spend.

4.3 Julian Head tabled a paper, Overview of delivery via ESF Co-Funded schemes, and talked members through the issues. Concern was expressed that projects completed some time ago have not been closed.

8. ERDF Project Assessments

8.1 PA1 Digital Business Acceleration Hub

Conflicts of interest: Fleur de Rhe-Philippe

Members of the sub-committee advised the ERDF MA that this outline application potentially meets the local strategic needs and offers good value for money. They advised the ERDF MA to invite the applicant to develop a full application, subject to:

- Condition 3 being made a gateway condition. This is because members felt that the response to this condition was fundamental to whether or not the application has satisfactory strategic fit.

8.2 PA1 Porton Science Park – Phase 2 Centre

Conflicts of interest: Fleur de Rhe-Philippe

Members of the sub-committee advised the ERDF MA that this outline application meets the local strategic needs and offers good value for money, subject to the conditions identified in the assessment being satisfactorily met. They advised the ERDF MA to invite the applicant to develop a full application.

Members considered that the strategic fit and value for money could be strengthened further if the applicant were to:

- Provide more clarification on partner match funding and land ownership.

8.3 PA3 High Value Manufacturing Advisory Programme – Swindon and Wiltshire

No conflict of interest declared

Members of the sub-committee advised the ERDF MA that this outline application meets the local strategic needs and offers good value for money and advised the ERDF MA to invite the applicant to develop a full application.

8.4 PA3 The Swindon and Wiltshire Growth Hub

Conflict of interest declared by Ian Durston

Members of the sub-committee advised the ERDF MA that this outline application meets the local strategic needs and offers good value for money and advised the ERDF MA to invite the applicant to develop a full application.

9. ERDF Project Change Request

9.1 An update was given for the current Export for Growth project. It was explained that due to the International Trade 2 project not commencing until April 2020 there will be a 6 month gap in export provision between the Export for Growth project finishing and the International Trade 2 project starting. Consequently it is proposed that the Export for Growth project will be applying for a 6 month extension to fill the gap.

10. ERDF Application Update

10.1 A pipeline project update was given on Porton PV and Create Innovate and Grow

11. Any Other Business

11.1 There was no other business.

Annex A Action Points

List of Agreed Actions from 27/02/2019 Swindon and Wiltshire LEP Area ESI Funds Subcommittee Meeting

Agenda Item	Action	Action Assigned to
5.2	The programme manager from Wiltshire Council to contact EAFRD MA to request more detailed information about unsuccessful applications.	Wiltshire Council programme manager - Completed
7.3	ERDF MA will seek advice from PA4 experts about what other measures we can consider to encourage submissions.	ERDF MA - Completed

Annex B Attendee List

Swindon and Wiltshire ESI Funds Sub-Committee 27th February 2019 meeting

Chair & Deputy Chair:

Name, title and organisation	Sector/Organisation Representing
Fleur de Rhe-Philippe – Chair, Wiltshire Council	Local Authority

Sub-Committee Members:

Name, title and organisation	Sector/Organisation Representing
Gary Mantle OBE – CEO Wiltshire Wildlife Trust	Environment
Ian Durston – Programme manager, Swindon and Wiltshire LEP	Swindon and Wiltshire LEP
Dave Potts – Programme Manager, Community First	Voluntary and Community

Others in attendance (non-members - including secretariat):

Name, title and organisation	Sector/Organisation Representing
Julian Head – Programme Manager, Wiltshire Council	Local Authority
Peter Holden - LEP Relationship Manager, MHCLG	ERDF Managing Authority (MHCLG)
Louise Reekie - Louise Reekie, Team Leader, MHCLG	ERDF Managing Authority (MHCLG)
Claire Maguire – Operations Manager, DWP	ESF Managing Authority (DWP)
Karen Turner – Secretariat	ERDF Managing Authority (MHCLG)
Anne Devlin – Secretariat	ERDF Managing Authority (MHCLG)

Apologies:

Name, title and organisation	Sector/Organisation Representing
Paddy Bradley, Director, Swindon and Wiltshire LEP	Swindon and Wiltshire LEP
John Mortimer, Chair, Swindon and Wiltshire LEP	Swindon and Wiltshire LEP
Peter Wragg, Board Member, Swindon and Wiltshire LEP	Swindon and Wiltshire LEP
Paul Clark, Rural Development Manager, RPA	EAFRD Managing Authority (DEFRA)