

Wednesday, 1 December 2021

Meeting Notes



Cabinet) at the appropriate stages.

A quantified benefit:cost ratio should be provided for each business case.

CBC is currently looking at the risk register, procurement and financial arrangements.

Summary documents, signed by CBC Chief Executive or S151 Officer and Chair of the Town Deal Board, with agreement that:

- The business case is Green Book Compliant

Patrick Warner (PW) thanked NT for the presentation and his work on governance.

- Clem Smith (CS) presented a summary of the business case for the Crawley Innovation Centre, including:
 - Coast to Capital LEP secured £8.6m from Getting Building Fund (GBF) to invest in design, build and delivery of a Crawley Innovation Centre
 - Towns Fund allocation £2.5m of which £1.6m will be used as revenue 'pump priming' for the project.
 - The project fits the Economic Recovery Plan's 'Green Transformation' priority by focusing on technological development of clean and low-carbon energy appliances to retrofit homes and commercial premises.
 - Two location options being considered within Manor Royal
 - Delivery objectives to design, build and launch the Centre, appoint a third-party managing agent to run it and create flexible, versatile space for micro-businesses and SMEs to grow and scale activities.
 - Proposed technology 'USP' includes clean and green energy, transportation and quantum technologies.
 - Next steps to submit GBF business case to LEP Investment Committee on 13th December. Presentation of full business case to Town Deal Board in January, followed by formal CBC approval in February 2022.

Jeff Alexander (JA) welcomed the presentation and expressed strong support for the project, as chair of the Sub-Group. JA emphasized the importance of ensuring the project is sustainable as an Innovation Centre and does not lessen to a managed workplace. JA would like to see more links to Gatwick Airport and suggested the business plan should take into account the importance of building resilience and diversity within the project.

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<p>Henry Smith MP was invited to provide an update on the aviation sector, reporting that Gatwick Airport Ltd (GAL) has been recovering well over recent weeks however the new Omicron variant places significant uncertainty over the immediate future, particularly in the run up to the festive travel season. HS confirmed that that Airport & Ground Operators Support Scheme is to be extended with up to £4m available to GAL to help manage the ongoing disruption.</p>	
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