

Blackpool, Fylde and Wyre Economic Prosperity Board Minutes

The minutes of the Blackpool, Fylde and Wyre Economic Prosperity Board (EPB) meeting held on Wednesday, 2 May 2018 at the Committee Room 2, Civic Centre, Poulton-le-Fylde.

EPB members present:

Councillors Simon Blackburn, Leader Blackpool Council, David Henderson, Leader Wyre Council, Susan Fazackerley MBE, Leader Fylde Council
Chief Executive Officers: Neil Jack, Blackpool Council, Garry Payne, Wyre Council
Co-opted private sector representatives: Neil Farley (Fylde), Martin Long (Blackpool), Peter Worthington (Wyre)
Paul Walker, Director Development Services Fylde Council (substitute for Allan Oldfield)

Apologies:

Allan Oldfield, CEO Fylde Council

Other councillors present:

None

Others present:

Marianne Hesketh, Service Director Performance and Innovation, Wyre Council
Nick Gerrard, Growth and Prosperity Programme Director, Blackpool Council
Rob Green, Head of Enterprise Zones, Blackpool Council
Duncan Jowitt, Democratic Services and Councillor Development Officer, Wyre Council
Katharine McDonnell, Senior Democratic Services, Fylde Council - observer
Steve Smith, Blackpool Airport Enterprise Zone Delivery Manager, Blackpool Council - observer

No members of the public or press attended the meeting.

EPB 1 Election of chairman

Councillor Simon Blackburn was elected Chairman.

EPB 2 Election of vice chairman

Councillor David Henderson was elected vice chairman and then chaired the meeting as Cllr Blackburn had been delayed and did not join the meeting until agenda item 7.

EPB 3 Declarations of interest

None

EPB 4 Economic Prosperity Board (EPB) administrative arrangements

The Service Director Performance and Innovation for Wyre Council submitted a report asking the EPB to

1. note the principal member from each constituent authority and the named substitute from each authority in accordance with procedure rules 4.1 and 4.2 at appendix 1 of the report.
2. agree the three co-opted members, on the basis of one from each constituent authority in accordance with procedure rule 4.5, and their term of office.
3. agree the host authority for servicing the board in accordance with procedure rule 8.1.
4. agree the lead authority for undertaking economic functions on behalf of the board in accordance with procedure rule 8.2.
5. agree dates and venues of future EPB meetings in 2018-19 and the rota for servicing the board in accordance with procedure rule 8.1.

Decisions taken

1. The Leaders of each council were confirmed as the principal members and the substitute members to represent each authority in the absence of the principal member were named as:

Blackpool – Councillor Mark Smith
Fylde – Councillor Roger Small
Wyre – Councillor Alan Vincent

2. The three co-opted members, one from each constituent authority, were confirmed in accordance with procedure rule 4.5 as:

Blackpool – Martin Long
Fylde – Neil Farley
Wyre – Peter Worthington

and their term of office was agreed as 3 years.

3. It was agreed that Wyre Council be the host authority for servicing the EPB in accordance with procedure rule 8.1.
4. It was agreed that Blackpool Council be the lead authority for undertaking economic functions on behalf of the board in accordance with procedure rule 8.2.
5. The dates and times of future EPB meetings in 2018/19 were agreed as:

17 July 2018 2pm
13 November 2018 2pm
5 February 2019 2pm

Alternative venues at the Enterprise Zones were suggested to host future meetings and it was agreed that relevant contact details would be shared with Wyre Council's Democratic Services to allow other arrangements to be made where possible.

The future EPB hosting and rota for servicing the board was agreed as follows:

2018/19 - Wyre Council
2019/20 - Fylde Council
2020/21 - Blackpool Council

EPB 5 Enterprise Zone Governance

Blackpool Council's Growth and Prosperity Programme Director submitted a report proposing amendments to the governance arrangements for Blackpool Airport and Hillhouse Technology Enterprise Zones (EZ) originally agreed in the Memoranda of Understanding signed on 9th November 2016 by each Local Authority, the LEP and the then Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government.

Decisions taken

The EPB noted that the Blackpool, Fylde and Wyre Economic Prosperity Board replaced the now dissolved Blackpool, Fylde and Wyre Economic Development Company as the Enterprise Zone Programme Board.

The EPB approved the dissolution of the Blackpool Airport and Hillhouse Enterprise Zone Project Board and agreed that its functions and representation be distributed between the Enterprise Zone Programme Board and the individual Blackpool Airport and Hillhouse EZ Project Teams subject to agreement with the LEP EZ Governance Committee

EPB 6 Department for International Trade Investment Marketing Services

As agreed at the Joint EZ Project Board, Ian Whittaker, Head of Partnerships (North), Investment Services Team gave a presentation to the board.

The EPB discussed the information presented and agreed that the marketing of the two EZs and promotion of tourism and leisure were key elements that could benefit greatly from the support of the Department for International Trade. The region's proximity to Manchester, one of the most successful areas in terms of inward investment was also flagged as a potential marketing asset.

EPB 7 Transforming Cities Fund

The EPB discussed the submission of a bid for funding under the Transforming Cities Fund for potential extensions of the light rail / tram system and agreed that the Growth and Prosperity Programme Director, Blackpool Council take the lead in consulting with Lancashire County Council (LCC) on a Fylde Coast funding bid linked if possible with LCC.

EPB 8 Exclusion of public and press

The EPB agreed that, if discussion of the reports submitted under items 10 and 11 of the agenda were to involve the disclosure of “exempt information”, as defined in Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 the following resolution would be applied:

“That the public and press be excluded from the meeting whilst the remaining agenda item(s) is/are considered, on the grounds that their presence would involve the disclosure of exempt information as defined in category 3 (Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person, including the authority holding that information) of Part 1 of Schedule 12(a) of the Local Government Act, 1972, as amended by the Local Government (Access to Information) Variation Order 2006 and, that the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information”.

EPB 9 Blackpool Airport EZ Progress report

Blackpool Council’s Head of Enterprise Zones submitted a progress report to update the EPB on Blackpool Airport EZ.

Decision taken

The board considered and noted the progress report and noted that the report would be used to update the LEP EZ Governance Committee on 16 May

EPB 10 Hillhouse Technology EZ Progress report

Blackpool Council’s Head of Enterprise Zones submitted a progress report to update the EPB on Hillhouse Technology EZ.

Decision taken

The board considered and noted the progress report and noted that the report would be used to update the LEP EZ Governance Committee on 16 May

The meeting started at 10.12 am and finished at 11.44 am.

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