

Subject:	Gatwick 360⁰: Greater Brighton Leading Delivery of the SEP		
Date of Meeting:	16 October 2018		
Report of:	Chair, Greater Brighton Officer Programme Board		
Contact Officer:	Name:	Nick Hibberd	Tel: 01273 293020
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Ward(s) affected:	All		

FOR GENERAL RELEASE**1. PURPOSE OF REPORT AND POLICY CONTEXT**

- 1.1 On the 6 March 2018, the Coast to Capital Local Enterprise Partnership (C2C LEP) published its Strategic Economic Plan (SEP) for consultation and invited comments.
- 1.2 The Greater Brighton Economic Board ('the Board') welcomed the opportunity to respond and work with Coast to Capital, to both help shape its Strategic Economic Plan and to support the delivery of this at a City Region level. [A formal response](#) was submitted to C2C on 23 March 2018.
- 1.3 On 19 July 2018, C2C formally unveiled *Gatwick 360⁰* as its new SEP for 2018-2030. Through the SEP, C2C set out their vision for the C2C area, and outlined eight key priority areas that will drive growth and prosperity across the region. Government has made clear that they expect LEPs to lead on delivery of the Industrial Strategy locally through Local Industrial Strategies. The SEP will form the foundations of a Local Industrial Strategy, and will provide the platform from which discussions with Government will commence.
- 1.4 The purpose of this report is to provide the Board with a summary of the priorities contained within the SEP, and demonstrate how they align with Greater Brighton priorities and the Greater Brighton work programme.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 2.1 That the Board note the contents of the report, specifically the ways in which the current Greater Brighton work programme is already supporting delivery of the SEP, and the opportunities for future working with C2C.
- 2.2 That the Board agree that the paper be submitted to C2C, to inform C2C about how Greater Brighton will support delivery of the SEP.
- 2.3 That the Board agree that officers should work closely with colleagues at C2C to deliver the SEP at a Greater Brighton level, and support C2C in its dialogue with Government around developing a Local Industrial Strategy.

3. CONTEXT/ BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 3.1 The first Coast to Capital SEP was published in March 2014. Since then, there have been significant changes including the United Kingdom's decision to leave the European Union, a new Industrial Strategy as set out by the Green Paper and White Paper, and changes to the economy of the LEP region. Coast to Capital has developed a new SEP to address these changes.
- 3.2 The new SEP sets out the strategy for economic growth for the LEP region, including challenges and opportunities, and what conditions, investments and interventions are required to achieve that growth. The SEP will also be the main tool used by the LEP to inform conversations with the Government on the development of the region's Local Industrial Strategy.
- 3.3 The SEP has identified eight priorities to drive investment into the region and contribute to growth of the national economy;

- **Deliver prosperous urban centres**

We will identify a shortlist of towns and localities with ambitions for transformational development and economic growth, prioritising funding for them.

- **Develop business infrastructure and support**

We will seek funding to develop high quality business space so that productive businesses can flourish here and bring better paid jobs to the area.

- **Invest in sustainable growth**

We will be the partner of choice for investment in environmental capital, supporting the delivery of the 25 Year Environment Plan. We will prioritise development of regional strategies for energy, waste, water and low emission vehicles so that ours is a truly sustainable economy.

- **Create skills for the future**

We will seek funding for training opportunities and high quality training facilities to make sure the adult workforce has the skills for future business needs.

- **Pioneer innovation in core strengths**

We will seek to establish a stronger university presence across our area; particularly to bring new university focus on business innovation in high growth areas such as the Gatwick Diamond and Croydon.

- **Promote better transport and mobility**

We will lead in lobbying for investment in a state of the art digital railway through investment in the Brighton Mainline and Crossrail 2. We will

actively support the creation of Transport for the South East to bring further funds to roads and railways across our area.

- **Improve digital network capability**

We will prioritise investment in a new standard of full fibre broadband connectivity between our economic hubs, to make us the first area of the UK with full 21st century fibre infrastructure.

- **Build a strong national and international identity**

We will lead development of a strategy for increasing international and domestic investment in our area, reflecting the business strengths, natural environment and cultural offer.

- 3.4 In general, the Board is in agreement with the eight priorities and the general direction of travel communicated in the SEP.
- 3.5 The Greater Brighton City Region, extending from the coast to Gatwick Airport, is a significant geography within the wider LEP region. Home to around 900,000 residents and generating over £21bn in gross value added (GVA), Greater Brighton has a crucial part to play in driving growth across the LEP region and wider south east. For C2C to be able to deliver the LEP successfully, Greater Brighton will need to take a leading role.
- 3.6 Each of the above priorities outlined in 3.3 are closely aligned with the Board's ambitions and priorities for the Greater Brighton City Region. As forward thinking and outward looking City Region, Greater Brighton already has an agreed work programme and investment programme pipeline, and many active and upcoming projects will support delivery of the SEP at a Greater Brighton level.
- 3.7 Greater Brighton priorities are aligned to SEP priorities, which are in turn aligned to the Foundations of Productivity and Grand Challenges outlined in the Industrial Strategy. Therefore, there are clear linkages between the Industrial Strategy and Greater Brighton Priorities, and the existing Greater Brighton work programme will support the delivery of the Industrial Strategy at a local level.

4. ANALYSIS & CONSIDERATION OF ANY ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

- 4.1 None required.

5. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT & CONSULTATION

- 5.1 Considerable stakeholder engagement was undertaken by C2C LEP in the preparation of *Gatwick 360⁰* and it is anticipated that there will be further engagement and consultation in the development of the Local Industrial Strategy.

6. CONCLUSION

- 6.1 Many of the proposals outlined in the SEP are welcome and in many areas there is clear alignment between C2C's strategy and the aims and objectives of Greater Brighton. Greater Brighton is already leading on delivering the SEP through an established work programme, and there are a number of opportunities that can be realised from a continued joined-up approach with C2C.
- 6.2 The SEP is going to be a crucial document for driving current and future growth across Greater Brighton and wider LEP area. It will also form the basis of discussions with Government around developing a Local Industrial Strategy.
- 6.3 The Board looks forward to working closely with C2C to successfully deliver the SEP and develop a Local Industrial Strategy that will benefit all residents.

6. FINANCIAL & OTHER IMPLICATIONS:

Financial Implications:

- 6.1 There are no direct financial implications resulting from this report, however, the SEP has identified eight priorities to drive investment into the region and contribute to growth of the national economy. The new SEP will look for funding and investment opportunities for the eight priorities detailed in paragraph 3.3 above. These will be explored and reported back to this Board as the plan develops.

*Finance Officer Consulted: Rob Allen, Principal Accountant
Date: 01/10/18*

Legal Implications:

- 6.2 There are no legal implications arising directly from this report.

*Lawyer Consulted: Alice Rowland, Head of Commercial Law
Date: 04/10/18*

Equalities Implications:

- 6.3 None.

Sustainability Implications

- 6.4 The Board agrees that it is essential the all investment in our economic capacity is accompanied by similar investment in our natural capital and clean growth. Greater Brighton will put low carbon growth at the heart of the Greater Brighton economy and wants to be seen as a platform for Green Growth.
- 6.5 The Greater Brighton Economic Board work plan includes developing resilience and sustainability plans for water and energy, to ensure that the City Region has the capacity for future growth and that growth will be sustainable. The City

Region asks that the integration of affordable, secure and low carbon energy infrastructure and resource efficient building practices is continued.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

Appendices:

1. Gatwick 360⁰: Greater Brighton Leading Delivery of the SEP

