

Members are reminded that they must declare all relevant pecuniary and non-pecuniary interests relating to any items of business to be discussed at this meeting

BIRMINGHAM CITY COUNCIL

ECONOMY, SKILLS AND SUSTAINABILITY OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

FRIDAY, 11 MARCH 2016 AT 10:00 HOURS
IN COMMITTEE ROOMS 3 & 4, COUNCIL HOUSE, VICTORIA SQUARE, BIRMINGHAM, B1 1BB

A G E N D A

1 **NOTICE OF RECORDING**

The Chairman to advise the meeting to note that this meeting will be webcast for live and subsequent broadcast via the Council's Internet site (www.birminghamnewsroom.com) and that members of the press/public may record and take photographs. The whole of the meeting will be filmed except where there are confidential or exempt items.

2 **APOLOGIES**

3 **MINUTES**

3 - 22

To confirm and sign the Minutes of the meetings held on 12 February 2016 and 19 February 2016.

4 **GREATER BIRMINGHAM AND SOLIHULL LOCAL ENTERPRISE PARTNERSHIP (LEP) - EMPLOYMENT, SKILLS AND GROWTH DEAL OPPORTUNITIES (10:05 - 10:50)**

23 - 42

Rachel Egan, Head of Employment and Skills, Solihull MBC & Lead on Skills Strategy for GBSLEP

Shilpi Akbar, Assistant Director, Employment

Ian McLaughlan, Growth Hub Manager, GBSLEP

5 **UPDATE ON GREEN COMMISSION (10:50 - 11:30)**

43 - 50

Cllr Lisa Trickett, Cabinet Member for Sustainability and Jackie Homan, Sustainability and Science City Manager

6 **DISCUSSION - BIRMINGHAM IN THE EUROPEAN UNION: POSITIONS TO EXPLORE IN PERSPECTIVE OF THE REFERENDUM**

Lloyd Broad, Head of European and International Affairs

51 - 56

7 **WORK PROGRAMME FOR THE ECONOMY, SKILLS AND SUSTAINABILITY OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE 2015/16**

8 **REQUEST(S) FOR CALL IN/COUNCILLOR CALL FOR ACTION/PETITIONS RECEIVED (IF ANY)**

To consider any request for call in/councillor call for action/petitions (if received).

9 **OTHER URGENT BUSINESS**

To consider any items of business by reason of special circumstances (to be specified) that in the opinion of the Chairman are matters of urgency.

10 **AUTHORITY TO CHAIRMAN AND OFFICERS**

Chairman to move:-

'In an urgent situation between meetings, the Chair jointly with the relevant Chief Officer has authority to act on behalf of the Committee'.

BIRMINGHAM CITY COUNCIL

**ECONOMY, SKILLS AND
SUSTAINABILITY OVERVIEW
AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
12 FEBRUARY 2016**

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE ECONOMY, SKILLS AND
SUSTAINABILITY OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE HELD ON
FRIDAY, 12 FEBRUARY 2016 AT 1000 HOURS IN COMMITTEE ROOMS 3
AND 4, COUNCIL HOUSE, BIRMINGHAM**

PRESENT:-

Councillor Quinn in the Chair;

Councillors Barrie, Hughes, Huxtable, Islam, M Jenkins, O'Shea, Rehman and Spencer.

ALSO PRESENT

Councillor T Ali – Cabinet Member for Development, Transport and the Economy

Ms B Begum – Research and Policy Officer

Mr C Brockie – Cabinet Support Officer

Ms S Freedman – Assistant Director - Regeneration

Ms A Shaw – Assistant Director -Transport and Connectivity

Miss V Williams – Committee Manager

Mrs B Wishart – Overview and Scrutiny Manager

Mr C Wright – Drainage and Flood Risk Manager

NOTICE OF RECORDING/WEBCAST

- 57 The Chairman advised, and the Committee noted, that this meeting would be webcast for live or subsequent broadcast via the Council's Internet site (www.birminghamnewsroom.com) and members of the press/public could record and take photographs. The whole of the meeting would be filmed except where there were confidential or exempt items.

APOLOGIES

- 58 Apologies were submitted on behalf of Councillor J Evans.

MINUTES

Councillor Islam wished his name to be recorded in the Minutes as having attended the last meeting.

- 59 With that amendment, the Minutes of the last meeting, having been previously circulated, were confirmed and signed.

CABINET MEMBER FOR DEVELOPMENT, TRANSPORT AND THE ECONOMY

The following report of the Cabinet Member for Development, Transport and the Economy was submitted together with a copy of the presentation slides tabled at the meeting:-

(See documents Nos 1 and 2)

Councillor T Ali, Cabinet Member for Development, Transport and the Economy, gave a presentation and highlighted the achievements over the last year as more particularly referred to in the report and slides now submitted.

Councillor Ali responded to Members' questions and the following were amongst the points made:-

1. With regard to revenue costs, he suggested that funding could be raised, for example, through the retention of business rates or from enterprise contributions.
2. The Council had been lobbying the Department for Transport regarding the Camp Hill course. Discussions had also taken place with Centro. However, it was a long term project and would not be achieved overnight.
3. It was important to create good links between different modes of transport such as the metro, bus and rail networks.
4. With regard to local centres, a new strategy was being developed.
5. The Council was committed to the continued development of the A38 corridor, Innovation Birmingham and the science park.
6. Birmingham Smithfield would create opportunities for more than 1,000 homes.
7. Councillor Ali undertook to e-mail information regarding the Birmingham Jobs Fund to Members.

8. Councillor Ali offered to submit a progress report to a future meeting regarding the Community Infrastructure Levy which had come into effect on 1 January 2016.
9. The pop up job shop was a way of bringing together employers and job seekers. The aim was to try to match jobs with people.
10. The city centre mainly comprised large retail chain stores that were found in many other cities throughout the UK. However, there was also a 'uniqueness' to Birmingham created by independent businesses based in the local centres such as Alum Rock Road, Ladypool Road, Acocks Green, Sutton Coldfield and Erdington.

It was important to maintain a balance between large retail chain stores and independent businesses.
11. He confirmed that the highways funding PFI credits for 2010/11 had been protected.
12. The transport capital project was a rolling programme. A report was due to be considered by Cabinet on 16 February 2016.
13. Councillor Ali welcomed the suggestion that there should be a review of speed limits within the vicinity of schools.
14. It was important to improve the real time information regarding transport and travelling throughout the area.
15. Councillor Ali undertook to liaise with Councillor Brigid Jones, the Cabinet Member for Children's Services, regarding funding for school crossing patrols.
16. The life expectancy of the work carried out on the Tame Valley Viaduct was between 25 and 30 years.
17. He briefly explained the road improvements to the junction at Iron Lane, Stechford, expected to commence in January 2017, and the Bromford Gyratory.
18. Councillor Ali welcomed the suggestion that European funding could be sought for providing intelligent road signage.
19. He undertook to e-mail information to Members regarding Birmingham Connected and Midlands Connect.
20. Councillor Ali urged Members to feed into the process regarding the parking review.
21. The length of the proposed rapid transit sprint vehicles would be a decision for the Integrated Transport Authority.

22. Birmingham was an economically successful city which attracted big investment and large organisations such as HSBC which had recently decided to relocate its headquarters from London to the Arena Central development in Broad Street.

The Chairman thanked Councillor Ali for attending the meeting.

60

RESOLVED:-

That the report be noted.

The Committee adjourned at 1203 hours and reconvened at 1212 hours.

FLOOD RISK MANAGEMENT AND RESPONSE ANNUAL REPORT

The following report of the Flood Risk Manager was submitted:-

(See document No 3)

Mr C Wright, Flood Risk Manager, introduced the item, highlighting the progress in addressing the Council's new statutory responsibilities as a Lead Local Flood Authority, and provided an update on other flood risk management, as more particularly referred to in the report now submitted.

He responded to Members' questions and the following were amongst the points made:-

1. Dealing with accountancy and financial arrangements were now part of an engineer's role.
2. It was important to build on partnership working and make the most of any development opportunities.
3. The Council had been working with the Environment Agency to try to identify a way of carrying out flood defence work to protect approximately 70 to 80 properties in Sparkhill. One option currently being considered was to remove a weir.
4. In order to keep costs to a minimum, the Council had been working with the Environment Agency regarding the River Tame Strategy, referred to in paragraph 4.4.5 of the report.
5. He explained the different types of flooding that could occur.
6. The National Flood Forum provided support and advice to people who had suffered from flooding including information about insurance.
7. A mini flood fest was not feasible. The Birmingham Floodfest held last November 2015 had not been planned as an annual event and was only likely to be held again if there was something major to put forward.

However, members of the public could obtain information regarding flooding on the Council's website.

8. Members of the public could report blocked gullies by 'phoning 303 6644.
9. With regard to flood risk management, the Council worked on a daily basis with Severn Trent Water.

The Chairman thanked Mr Wright for attending the meeting.

61 **RESOLVED:-**

That the report be noted.

ECONOMY, SKILLS AND SUSTAINABILITY OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME 2015-16

The following work programme was submitted:-

(See document No 4)

62 **RESOLVED:-**

That the work programme be noted.

REQUEST(S) FOR CALL IN/COUNCILLOR CALL FOR ACTION/PETITIONS RECEIVED (IF ANY)

63 The Chairman advised that there had been no requests for call in/councillor call for action/petitions received.

OTHER URGENT BUSINESS

64 No other urgent business was raised.

AUTHORITY TO CHAIRMAN AND OFFICERS

65 **RESOLVED:-**

That in an urgent situation between meetings the Chair, jointly with the relevant Chief Officer, has authority to act on behalf of the Committee.

The meeting ended at 1246 hours.

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CHAIRMAN

BIRMINGHAM CITY COUNCIL

BIRMINGHAM ECONOMY, SKILLS AND SUSTAINABILITY OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE 19 FEBRUARY 2016

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE BIRMINGHAM ECONOMY, SKILLS AND
SUSTAINABILITY OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE HELD ON FRIDAY,
19 FEBRUARY 2016 AT 1000 HOURS IN COMMITTEE ROOM 2, COUNCIL
HOUSE, BIRMINGHAM**

PRESENT: - Councillor Quinn in the Chair; Councillors Barrie, Evans, Hughes, Huxtable, Islam, O'Shea and Rehman

ALSO PRESENT

Councillor Ian Ward - Deputy Leader
Councillor Tahir Ali - Cabinet Member for Development, Transport and the Economy
Craig Buckley – Soho Road BID
Sharon Freedman - Assistant Director, Regeneration
Sandy Gianni – Acocks Green BID
Andrew Ludwig - Senior Revenues Officer
Ojay McDonald – Association of Town Centre Managers
Errol Wilson – Committee Manager
Benita Wishart - Overview and Scrutiny Manager

NOTICE OF RECORDING

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APOLOGIES

67 Apologies for non-attendance were submitted on behalf of Councillors Badley, Jenkins, Jones and Spencer.

An apology for non-attendance was also submitted from Baseema Begum.

UPDATE ON BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT DISTRICTS (BID)

68 Councillor Ian Ward, Deputy Leader and Councillor Tahir Ali, Cabinet Member for Development, Transport and the Economy presented the item.

The Deputy Leader made the following statements: -

- The 2015/16 Budget of the City Council, savings were factored into that budget around the cost associated with the collection of BID levies and the administration of those BID levies. They did not manage to take the proposition forward for 2015/16.
- Last summer a consultation was undertaken with all of the City's BIDs of the proposed Future Model of the cost incurred by the City Council based on a 5% CAP of BID income. Four written responses were received from Colmore, Sutton Coldfield, Northfield and the Jewellery Quarter BIDs. Careful consideration was given to those responses and Colmore BID in particular made representation that the CAP should be on 3% of income not 5%.
- The Council had responded positively to that representation and a Cabinet report was being drafted which would be submitted to Cabinet in March 2016. The draft report proposes a 3% CAP on BID income and for a proportion of charges to be levied to the BIDs for the collection and charges of the BIDs levy.
- The BIDs were invited to make any further representation that they wished to make which would be included in the Cabinet report, provided the representation was received by the 29 February 2016. The Cabinet would make a decision at its meeting in March 2016.
- Sharon Freedman, Assistant Director for Regeneration had made a number of attempts to get feedback from the BIDs on the consultation as they had only received four responses.
- The City Centre BIDs were now part of a City Centre Partnership arrangement and he had attended those meetings. At the last meeting of that Partnership he had raised that issue and had indicated that the City Council was mindful to bring forward a report for Cabinet agreement based upon a 3% CAP of BID income.
- There were no adverse comments made by the City Centre Partnership at that meeting to that proposition.
- There were meetings with the BIDs that had included both Cabinet Members concerning the resource issue which was a real one.

- The City Council had previously employed 21,000 people, but had currently employed about 13,000 people and in a few years' time would employ 6,000 to 7,000 people.
- The number of people working in all areas of the City Council would be significantly reduced and this would continue to be the case. This includes the area of finance where there were fewer resources.
- It was known that there were issues with the process and speed of the process. They would look at the process to see if they could be speeded up, but there was always going to be a balance to be struck between the desire for things to be slick and the amount of resources the Council had available.
- The BIDs could make further representation which would be included in the Cabinet report. The deadline for this was the 29 February 2016. There were a number of BIDs represented at this Committee meeting and he was happy to listen to what they had to say.

(Councillor O'Shea declared his non-pecuniary interest as a member for the Acocks Green BID).

In response to questions, the Deputy Leader, Councillor Ali and Ms Freedman made the following statements:-

1. Councillor Ward advised that there were on-going dialogues with all of the BIDs including the non-City Centre BIDs. Currently, there were discussions with BIDs about how they might deliver local services going forward, but there were discussions also with all of the BIDs about the new operating agreements that had to be signed due to legislation in order that they could share data on an on-going basis.
2. In terms of visiting with non-City Centre BIDs, diary commitments had meant that he was unable to do so, but he would redouble his efforts to make this happen. In Councillor Ali's diary, there were two meetings with the non-City Centre BIDs.
3. Councillor Ward stated that he had asked for meetings to be arranged on his behalf with the non-City Centre BIDs, but unfortunately, his diary commitments had not allowed this to happen. He undertook to make more effort to meet with the non-City Centre BIDs either collectively or individually.
4. There were Elected Members represented on each of the BIDs who were the first point of contact for any BID with the City Council to share responsibility around BIDs with him. The Leader of the City Council could be contacted if BIDs had genuine concerns and they wished to have those concerns heard, his door was open and he was more than willing to listen to what any of them had to say either this morning or anytime in the future.
5. In terms of the CAP, it was made clear that any charge would not be introduced during the period of the BID, but would only be introduced at BID renewal or on the creation of a new BID. The current proposal that would go

to Cabinet refers to BIDs that would be subject to a charge. These were the Jewellery Quarter, Kings Heath, Soho Road, Colmore and Westside BIDs, as their new term begins in September 2017, would be the first. Erdington, Sutton Coldfield, Northfield, Acocks Green and Retail would not be impacted by this at their renewal.

6. The City Council had been subjected to £560m worth of cuts by the Government since 2010. The next financial year involves a further £90m and an additional £250m between now and 2020. As to what the City could do to mitigate the impact of these cuts was always the consideration the Cabinet gives in drafting the budget for each financial year. It would not be possible given the scale of the cuts to completely prevent any impact on any individual in the City or any BID.
7. What would happen as part of the process was that they would reach a baseline with the BIDs on service provision. The proposal was to have a Memorandum of Understanding around highways and street cleansing in particular that would be enforced at the period of any BID renewal. If the Government continues on its current course, the Council would be required to balance its budget and balancing its budget meant that it would have less money to spend.
8. The Deputy Leader noted the Chairman's and Councillor Huxtable's comments regarding the City Centre Partnership and stated that the Chairman was talking about Member representation on the Board, but Cllr Huxtable was referring to the newly constituted City Centre Partnership. He advised that the previous arrangement had fallen into 'disrepair'
9. The current City Centre Partnership arrangement was a reconstituted body and the City Council had a representation on it. He was one of the representatives, but he could not recall who the other representation was from memory and whether there was any other Member representation on the there. Perhaps this was something they needed to go back and look at. This was in the Cabinet report, but he could not recall the exact details from memory. The City Centre Partnership Board was not City Council led, but was BID led.
10. On consultation with the Councillors and Members on BID Boards that was part of the general consultation with BIDs. The assumption by the Council was that in consulting with the BIDs, that consultation would have been with the BID Boards and Members of the City Council represented on BID Boards would have been consulted through that route.
11. On Policy Contingency, the funding of the collection of BID Levies, the administration of that collection was funded by the Policy Contingency in the past and the introduction of this charge would mean that pull on Policy Contingency was less in the future.
12. The Deputed Leader noted the Chairman's comments and Councillor Huxtable's recommendation with regard to the Councillors on the BID Boards appointed by Cabinet at the beginning of the new Municipal Year and advised

that the Councillors had taken this on Board in order to improve their communication. In terms of the Elected Members on BID Boards, a memorandum was sent to all Members on BID Boards informing them of the current position and it was intended to take a report to Cabinet in March 2016.

13. Lifford had moved forward with a BID Ballot which had resulted in a *No Vote*. In terms of the challenge to Sparkbrook and Springfield BID, the outcome was made on a number of points which was upheld by the Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG) and only Digbeth was also looking to become a BID. They were not aware of anyone else coming forward. It was important to note that the process was business led and the request had to come from them.
14. In terms of the Future Council they had to take cognisance of where they were with the present Council and this was more pertinent. It had to be recognised that they were the largest area in terms of Birmingham and the number of BIDs they had. Digbeth stand a strong chance of becoming a BID and they needed to ensure that those that did come forward were not prevented from doing so.
15. The process was business led and not one that the City Council led on. As part of the Future Council, they could not interfere with the operation of businesses. This was clear in some of the approaches that the Kerslake report had mentioned. It had to be recognised that the reality was that it was a business led approach, where there was an appetite for business to get together and bring forward a proposal.
16. The City Council was supportive of BIDs and once there was evidence of local business support, the City Council would do what was needed to be done to help establish a BID. The City was successful in establishing BIDs. In 2015, there were three BID Ballots that were held – Yes Vote for Westside and Yes Vote for Southside and the proposed Lifford BID had received a No Vote and was a local decision. There was not a lot that could be done as this was unfortunate.
17. This year there were five BIDs going to Ballot – Acocks Green, Northfield, Sutton Coldfield, Erdington and Retail – the City Council was very supportive of that process moving forward.
18. The City Council had and would continue to provide support to both BIDs that had re-balloted and new BIDs coming forward, plus a whole range of different Departments of the City Council. The view that the No Vote was down to finance was accepted, but there was a well organised campaign against that BID which was the reason it was unsuccessful.
19. The Deputy Leader drew the attention of the Committee to the information at the top of page 5 of the document circulated at the meeting and advised that the list of things bullet pointed was the support that the City Council had given to the BIDs. If businesses within the City wished to form a BID, the City Council would speak with them about it.

20. BID arrangements were partnership arrangements locally and partnership with the City Council. Local Members who had a BID within their Ward were encouraged to be involved with the BID. The City Council was not preventing this happening and this would be encouraged.
21. The Deputy Leader noted Councillor O'Shea's comment and advised that BIDs were locally determined and it was a good thing for any local centre to have a BID established and to have that investment then levered in for the local environment and the local community.
22. With regard to financial help for emerging BIDs, the Deputy Leader suggested that the way this could be considered was to look at any case for funding on a case by case basis going forward.
23. Ms Freedman advised that at a recent meeting at the Women's Enterprise Centre, they had a bit where the Deputy Leader stated that it was for businesses to lead whether it be the establishment of a BID, but also having that *grass root* to be able to build up those partnerships. Not every partnership had to become a BID.
24. Ms Freedman stated that a draft paper would be produced to Ward Members involved to look how they might map the business activity to see how they could build up some *grass root swell* of interest that they would then be able to come together as a new partnership board and for them to see that this was a way forward as a BID.
25. It needed to be acknowledged that post a BID ballot, which was unsuccessful in the case of Lifford No Vote, this appeared to be predominantly around an anti-principle of a BID. In Sparkbrook, the DCLG overturned the Yes Vote due to a lack of baseline data. This meant that they had to go back to the grass root and rebuild this again. The approach was mapping a business activity to see if they could facilitate a partnership emerging and for the partnership as businesses with local stakeholders to take this forward.
26. Councillor Ali noted Councillor Evans' comment and advised that in terms of Sparkbrook and Springfield Shadow Board, (the Stratford Road BID), Councillor Evans would be aware that there was a Shadow Board in operation. That Shadow Board did not meet on a regular basis following the overturning of the Yes Vote as they should.
27. There were efforts to convene a Shadow Board as Councillor Rehman stated and he had been working closely with businesses and the Shadow Board. This was about getting everyone involved and if Councillor Evans felt as the only opposition in Hall Green District, that his involvement was not there, perhaps he should have spoken to him or the Deputy Leader.
28. The consultation document that was circulated in summer, four BIDs had responded including Sutton Coldfield and the BIDs must have had that document. BIDs were still able to respond to that consultation document as the Cabinet report was due in March 2016 and they had until the 29 February 2016 to respond.

29. In addition to this document, they would now circulate the draft Cabinet report and BIDs would be able to comment upon that. Ms Freedman needed to indicate whether they would stick to the 29 February 2016 deadline for that report.
30. Ms Freedman stated that in terms of communication concerning the BIDs, there had been some confusion concerning language. During summer there was the consultation paper in which a number of BIDs formally responded. She had met with BIDs and had taken their comments on board.
31. After the Deputy Leader and Councillor Ali had reviewed the commentary and put forward a different proposal, all the BIDs were advised of this by email that the change from the proposal of 5% CAP to a 3% CAP and that the intention was to take this through a report to Cabinet in March 2016 and further comments were welcomed on the proposal and a draft Cabinet report would be circulated. Comments could be made on the proposition as was set out in the email.
32. There was a report going to Cabinet in March 2016. The draft report would be sent to City Council BID Board Members, BID Chairs and Managers. Comments on the draft report was invited up to the first week in March 2016. The report would then be submitted to Cabinet on the 22 March 2016 who would then make a decision.
33. There would be some resource available within the Council so that they could continue to deal with BIDs. Someone would be taking on Ms Freedman's role. The City Council was supportive of BIDs. The Council had supported them in the past and would support them in the future. The Deputy Leader stated that he would personally support BIDs across the City and that the Council would ensure that it had the resource available to continue to support BIDs in the future. BIDs were independent of the City Council and they Council was not there to carry out their role, but would provide a supportive role as necessary.
34. In terms of engagement, they had met with 12 months ago with BIDs across the City. A protocol was then set up where officers were working closely with officers of the BIDs and the Deputy Leader and Councillor Ali was engaged with the respective BID Chairs. As the Deputy Leader set out in his opening remarks, what they did not want to do was (one of the message that came back when they met with the BIDs was that they met with the Deputy Leader and ...) they ensured that they had met unitedly with the respective BID Chairs.
35. It was suggested that rather than meet in the Council House, it would be better if they meet in the respective areas. The worst thing was getting BIDs to come into the Council House and then states that they were working in partnership. They had given commitment to ensure that in terms of partnership approach with the City Council, they had officer support and the respective Members of the City Council that sat on the Boards of the respective BIDs.

36. The Deputy Leader stated that he would like to hear more outside this meeting exactly what the issues were. He was aware that they were currently discussing operating agreements with all of the BIDs and he had suspected that there had been a delay with this going forward. He undertook to have a meeting with the BIDs urgently to ascertain what was happening in order to unlock some of these problems.
37. The Deputy Leader stated that it was not all about business as it was repeatedly stated that it was about partnership. He was not trying to meet with local BID for over a year, but had been trying to meet with local BID since autumn.
38. He reiterated that this had not been proved possible due to diary commitments. Councillor Ali had explained further as to why this was the case. He stated that he was keen to speak with Sandy Gianni, Acocks Green BID concerning the issues she had raised. He added that at the rising of this meeting he would fixed a diary appointment with Ms Gianni to see if they could get to the bottom of the issues.
39. It was believed that the issues concerning the BIDs were similar and if people wished to attend the meeting that would be arranged with Ms Gianni they were welcome to do so. They would see if they could resolve the issues and map out a way forward.
40. A debate then ensued and the Deputy Leader advised that in order to move the issue on it would be better and more constructive to meet with the BIDs to resolve the issues. They had received comments on the draft Cabinet report and Cabinet would make a decision in March 2016.
41. The Deputy Leader noted Ms Gianni's comments concerning the legal issue in relation to BIDs and advised that this matter would be taken up at the meeting with her. He advised that a legal representative would be invited to attend the meeting.
42. He as interested in the idea about a local centre strategic partnership so that local BIDs that were willing to set this up he would be happy to talk to them and be supportive of it.
43. In relation to the City Centre Partnership – City Centre BIDs and partnership with the City Council and other organisations, the intention of the partnership was top meet twice per year and to include the local BIDs. It was understood that it would be more meaningful for local BIDs to have their own partnership body. If this was the route they wanted to go he would be keen to work with them on that issue.
44. The Deputy commented that Councillor Hughes' point was well made concerning the geography of the City Centre and the close facilities for the BIDs in the City Centre. This meant that the City Centre BIDs were able to get themselves organised as they were now and the City Centre Partnership which the Council was now on board with. It was much trickier as there were a number of diversities as pointed out with the local centre BIDs.

Notwithstanding, he was encouraged by the suggestion of a Local Centre Strategic Partnership. If this could be set up and they were partnering in that, they needed to see how successful they could be at moving this forward.

45. In terms of Councillor O'Shea's point concerning the Service Level Agreements, was a difficult one. The City Council budget reduction was of an unprecedented level. The nature and intention of the Government was to narrow the focus of the local government in the future and this would be a moving piece.
46. It was difficult to say without any certainty where they would end up over the next five years. The Government's numbers move from month to month. They would have a number of budgets as they go forward between now and 2020 and would no doubt move the figures even more. They needed to be prepared to be flexible and work genuinely in partnership with BIDs going forward in order to maintain some of the services that local people wanted to see in their locality in the future, but the budget reductions did not make this easy.
47. It was agreed that the Local Centres Strategic partnership could be a way forward that could act as a catalyst going forward. Local Centres were outside the City Centre that cuts across the outer-ring. Nonetheless, it was important that this happened. Looking at the City Centre BIDs, they did not disagree with the points being made.
48. Perhaps it was the Local Centre Strategic Partnership that would act as a catalyst for others to come together – those were not big enough, but in the locality would be able to join with an existing BID. This meant that the isolated local centres that would not be able to form a BID, there would be no reason why they could not match up to an existing BID. This would strengthen the role of the local centre ones compared to the City Centre BIDs.
49. There were over 34,000 people employed by Small and Medium-term Employers (SMEs) in Birmingham. If this was placed in terms of employment and economic output, regarding the investment drawn in, with the money that goes in far more than a return by the pound - £5 investment for every £1. This could only grow if the money was there.
50. Councillor Ali advised that he was informed by Ms Freedman of the partnership that was formed by the six local centres. He stated that this was encouraging and was a good thing. Regarding the representation on the Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP), was this individual BIDs, was it a partnership of six LEPs.
51. Not everyone had signed up to the Chamber, but this did not mean that the Chamber was representative of all the businesses in Birmingham. If you look at how many businesses had signed up to the Chamber on the BIDs, this was not many. He undertook to write to the Chair to advise that collectively, six BIDs had come together and request that a space be allocated to them. The more representation there was at that level engagement would happen. It was about promoting the BIDs and Birmingham .

52. Sutton Coldfield had set up a Chamber of Commerce within the Greater Birmingham Chamber. This was something that could be expanded into other areas such as Northfield at the other end of the City. It was about getting a seat at the table and ensuring that the individual voices were also heard rather than through a collective which was often a strategic one. At a local aspect this was often missed and it was this local aspect that usually got lost in transit even with the best will and intentions.

At this juncture the Chairman invited Ojay McDonald, Association of Town Centre Managers to give his reflection on what had been stated. Mr McDonald made the following comments: -

- ATCM were a membership led organisation that supports anyone that works in Town Centre Management. They were proud to include most of the BIDs that was represented at the meeting and Birmingham City Council. It was in ATCM's interest to see good partnership working across the BIDs and the Councils support in both the City Centre and locally.
- Internally, ATCM took the decision not to get involved at the local level as they cover the whole of the UK and the Republic of Ireland. It was a sign of how important Birmingham was to ATCM, that he was present at the meeting.
- Historically, ATCM was involved in the development of the original BID legislations with the UK Government and a lot of that work took place in the Midlands.
- For ATCM, Birmingham was the Second City and was UK Central and in an aspirational sense, if they wanted to ensure that Birmingham was seen as the economic powerhouse and a City that had a great reputation worldwide, then it was essential for partnership working between BIDs in the local centres, City Centre and the Council was effective and ensures that Birmingham was set up to meet any future challenges that came along.
- It was in the interest of ATCM to support any long-term economic and social development strategy that includes the BIDs. ATCM was more than happy to help and the Chairman was correct when they look at what was at stake, there would be other areas that were watching what was happening in Birmingham.
- How Birmingham comes out from this debate and tackles the problems they have at the moment in terms of the cuts and how this might relate to economic development locally simply because of its size and its position and the fact that in the past it had been a leader in some of the partnership working.
- Birmingham had a reputation that had to be maintained. This reputation was looked at by other towns and cities the UK. Birmingham itself as a

city was central to the UK economy and it was vital to ensure that this works.

- Thinking about some of the things that came ahead for Birmingham such as HS2 and how they ensured that the City was prepared to make things better both in terms of its social and economic development, it could not be seen how in the modern world this could not be done unless our City Centres and local centres were all well managed, and that partnership work happened between them.
- It was fundamental on the part of the City Council to make this happen so that the whole of the City could feel the benefits of this like Grand Central and HS2 station.
- In the long-term, if they got this right, there would be great value for the Council especially in terms of the use of resources. It was seen across the country that where they had good BIDs – there were some good BIDs in Birmingham – in the long-term they would bring the cost down for everyone in terms of what they could do and how effectively they could do it.

Councillor Ali then made the following statements: -

- a. Two years ago, ATCM held a conference in the Town Hall which brought together all the BIDs around the country. Not only did this promote Birmingham, but it also got them to meet others. He enquired whether ATCM would consider coming back to the Town Hall to hold another conference of the ATCM seeing that a lot of the BIDs had now been developed some of which was in their first year when the conference took place.
- b. HS2 was about the economic benefits it would bring to Birmingham . Birmingham's Action Plan was the first document that looked to address the connectivity issues not only in Birmingham, but the wider region. Wolverhampton was looking at ... and Coventry was looking at ... and then if you look at the Midlands Connect document and the different modes of transport and the Sprint, bus routes, trains stations, all the connectivity agenda had to link the local centres.
- c. All the visitors that were coming into Birmingham would visit the likes of Soho Road and Ladypool Road. They could only do so by the transport offer. This was discussed in details last week and they had not lost focus on this because without the connectivity, HS2 would be nothing. Connectivity was not about just being in the centres in Birmingham, but about the neighbouring authorities also.
- d. The Metro from Wolverhampton to Snow Hill was a missed opportunity. It should have gone down the Soho Road in terms of connecting the communities. It was about connecting the City Centre with Birmingham Airport through the Metro Link along Bordesley Green and East Birmingham Corridor. This was about bringing in the local centres into

play and ensuring that they benefitted from the regeneration that was happening and not isolating them.

- e. Having the Sprint down the A45 would be a missed opportunity just as he had believed they would have had different economic outputs if they had had the original Metro from Wolverhampton coming into Snow Hill via Soho Road. This would have been a game changer for that part of the City.
- f. Now that funding had been announced for the Metro Link from HS2 to the Airport that this goes through East Birmingham to demonstrate the commitment, it was about the money and having a priority list in terms of how would this connectivity through the West Midlands Combined Authority benefit other authorities.

The Deputy Leader commented that: -

- I. He was always willing to listen and explain why they were not doing what the BIDs wanted. He reiterated that they would listen, but that listening did not mean they would do everything that people wanted them to do. If they were not going to agree, then they would give a logical explanation as to why not.
- II. With regard to the issues being raised earlier, this meeting had covered a wide range of things from HS2 to the BID Levy. As far as he was concerned, he was here to comment on the BID Levy and the proposal that would be submitted to Cabinet in March 2016. He reiterated that the report would be circulated and would take comments until the end of the first week in March and then Cabinet would make its decision in March 2016. They would then implement the decision.
- III. As far as the City Centre BIDs were concerned, they had set up their City Centre Partnership and that it was hoped that this would continue to work in a positive way as it had been thus far. He would be discussing with the non-City Centre BIDs and explore the idea of a local centre partnership group to see whether this would work.

The Chairman thanked Councillor Ian Ward, Deputy Leader and Councillor Tahir Ali, Cabinet Member for Development, Transport and the Economy and everyone for attending the meeting.

**WORK PROGRAMME FOR THE ECONOMY, SKILLS AND SUSTAINABILITY
OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE 2015/2016**

The following work programme was submitted:-

(See document No 2)

RESOLVED:-

That the work programme be noted.

REQUEST(S) FOR CALL IN/COUNCILLOR CALL FOR ACTION/PETITIONS RECEIVED (IF ANY)

70 The Chairman advised that there had been no requests for call in/councillor call for action/petitions received.

AUTHORITY TO CHAIRMAN AND OFFICERS

71 **RESOLVED:-**

That in an urgent situation between meetings the Chair, jointly with the relevant Chief Officer, has authority to act on behalf of the Committee.

The meeting ended at 1205 hours.

.....
CHAIRMAN

GREATER BIRMINGHAM AND SOLIHULL LEP (GBSLEP) REPORT TO BIRMINGHAM CITY COUNCIL ECONOMY, SKILLS & SUSTAINABILITY OVERVIEW 7 SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

11 March 2016

Recommendation(s)

1. Committee members are asked to note the report, particularly the progress of the Growth Hub in its first five months of operation
2. Committee members are asked to promote the Growth Hub to their networks, contacts and, especially, local businesses as the single point of contact locally for business support
3. Committee members are asked to feed in any ideas for Growth Hub partnership working with business networks in their localities
4. Committee members are asked to view the Growth Hub web site www.gbslepgrowthhub.co.uk to provide feedback to the delivery team and to give context to this report

Background

5. Since the demise of Regional Development Agencies and Business Link during the last parliament it became clear at both a local and national level that while there is a great deal of publicly funded business support available, businesses were not aware either of its extent or how to access it
6. The UK Government, through the Department for Business, Innovation and Skills (BIS), has made funding available across all 39 LEP areas in England for each to establish its own Growth Hub as the single point of contact and a one-stop-shop for business support in its area
7. All Growth Hubs operate different delivery models, with different levels of funding and income (public and private). However, the vast majority are closely linked with the relevant LEP, which provides governance and strategic lead on their development in accordance with local need
8. GBSLEP Growth Hub operates on the core principles of an impartial, universal but tailored service free at the point of access, though its primary target is growing SMEs
9. The service is focused on information, diagnostic and brokerage, not programme delivery, which is done by partner organisations
10. Greater Birmingham & Solihull LEP (GBSLEP) launched its Growth Hub on 7 October 2015 following much planning and development work with business support organisations across the area
11. GBSLEP Growth Hub offers a personal service through qualified business advisers as well as a digital service through the Knowledge Bank (web portal), which is the repository for partner events, support and specific programmes

12. The Growth Hub aims, objectives, mission, targets and offer are all found at www.gbslepgrowthhub.co.uk.
13. BIS has recently awarded further monies for all 39 Growth Hubs to ensure stability and consistency until 2018, at which point central UK government money will cease
14. GBSLEP oversees the operation of the Growth Hub but delivery of the adviser service is through a Birmingham Chamber of Commerce led consortium, including local universities, which was awarded through competitive tender
15. GBSLEP Growth Hub is currently applying (with the Chamber the accountable body) for European Regional Development Funding to match with BIS and partner monies to ensure a sustained and improved service through to 2019
16. GBSLEP Growth Hub has a key role to play in co-ordinating the wider business support offer among partners, as it acts as the central point in the ecosystem
17. Performance data for the Growth Hub to the end of February 2016 is listed at Appendix 1. This is a promising start but with much work still to be done.

Key Issue(s)

18. GBSLEP Growth Hub's key challenge is to become known in the local business community as the first and single point of contact for any enterprise with business support needs
19. The Growth Hub's other main challenge is to secure ERDF funding through to 2019 to expand and enhance its current offer and also to look at long term sustainability

Policy Development/linkages with Existing LEP Strategy or Key Priorities

20. The Growth Hub is a "game-changer" in the current Strategic Economic Plan (SEP) and is the LEP's delivery vehicle for business support

Conclusion

21. Growth Hubs are the UK government's policy response to enable a simplified, joined up offer of local support to businesses. GBSLEP Growth Hub is still evolving but has made good initial progress, with some key challenges ahead. This is particularly the case in terms of establishing itself as the "go to" place for business support within its target market of SMEs in the LEP area.

Prepared by: Ian McLaughlan
Growth Hub Manager, GBSLEP
07730 282 722 ian.mclaughlan@birmingham.gov.uk

Date Created: 3 March 2016

Appendix

1. Growth Hub Performance data to end of February 2016



GBSLEP Growth Hub

Monthly Reports

February 2016

GBSLEP Growth Hub Metrics - to end February 2016

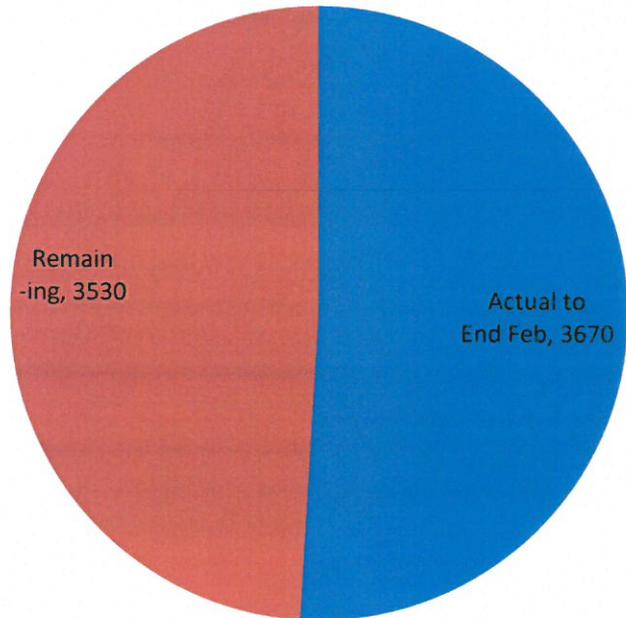
Outputs	Actual to End Feb	Overall Target by Nov 16	Remain-ing	% of Total
Number of enquiries	3670	7200	3530	51%
Number of intensive assists	267	500	233	53%
Number of jobs created (forecast)	538	500	-38	108%
Amount of funding invested in business	0			
Number of Start Ups	124			
Individuals receiving skills based training	14			
General support provided	3281			
Specific support provided	339			
Number of hours spent with clients	1017			
Amount of private sector match	0			
Number of Customer Complaints	0			
Customer Rating 1	0			
Customer Rating 2	0			
Customer Rating 3	0			
Customer Rating 4	0			
Customer Rating 5	0			

Registrations through website	February	To-date
Total	36	436

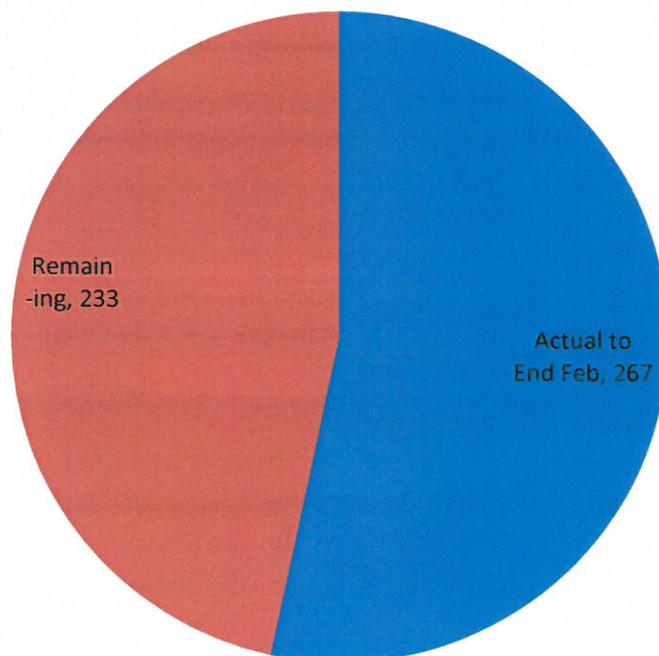
Incoming / outgoing telephone calls	February	To-date
Total incoming calls	164	866
Outgoing telephone calls by adviser		
Jeanette	167	967
Sandra	272	1576
Administrator	5	155
Total outgoing calls	444	2698

GBSLEP Growth Hub Metrics - to end February 2016

Enquiries

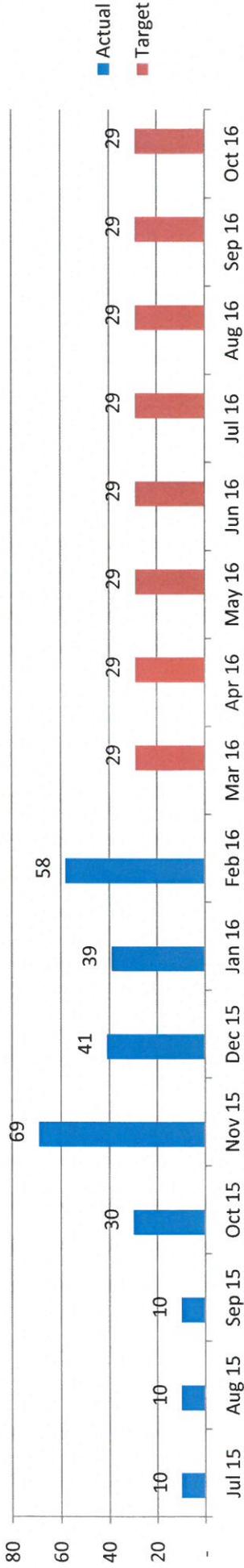


Intensive Assists

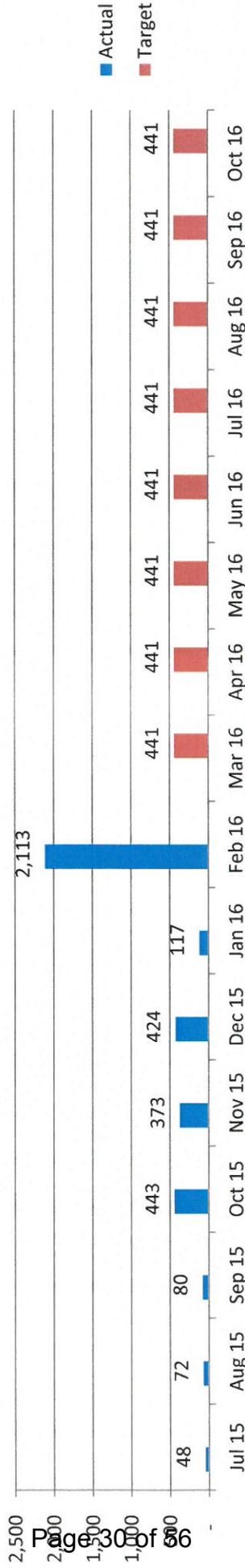


GBSLEP Growth Hub Performance Figures to 29/02/2016

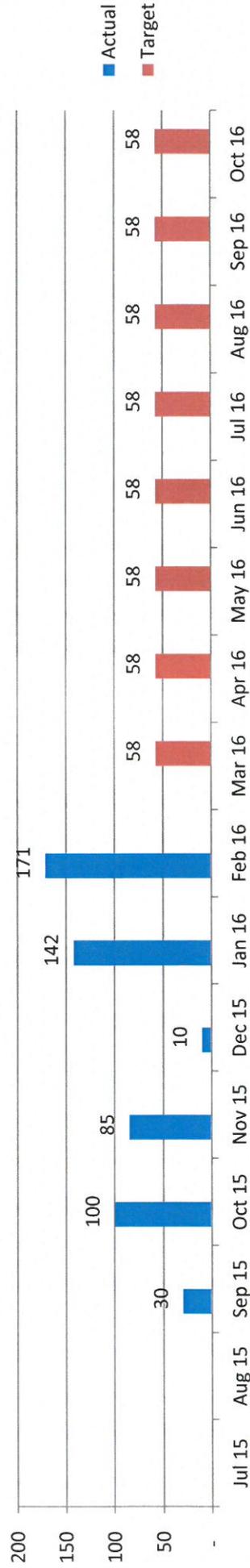
Intensive Assists - overall target 500



Enquiries - overall target 7200



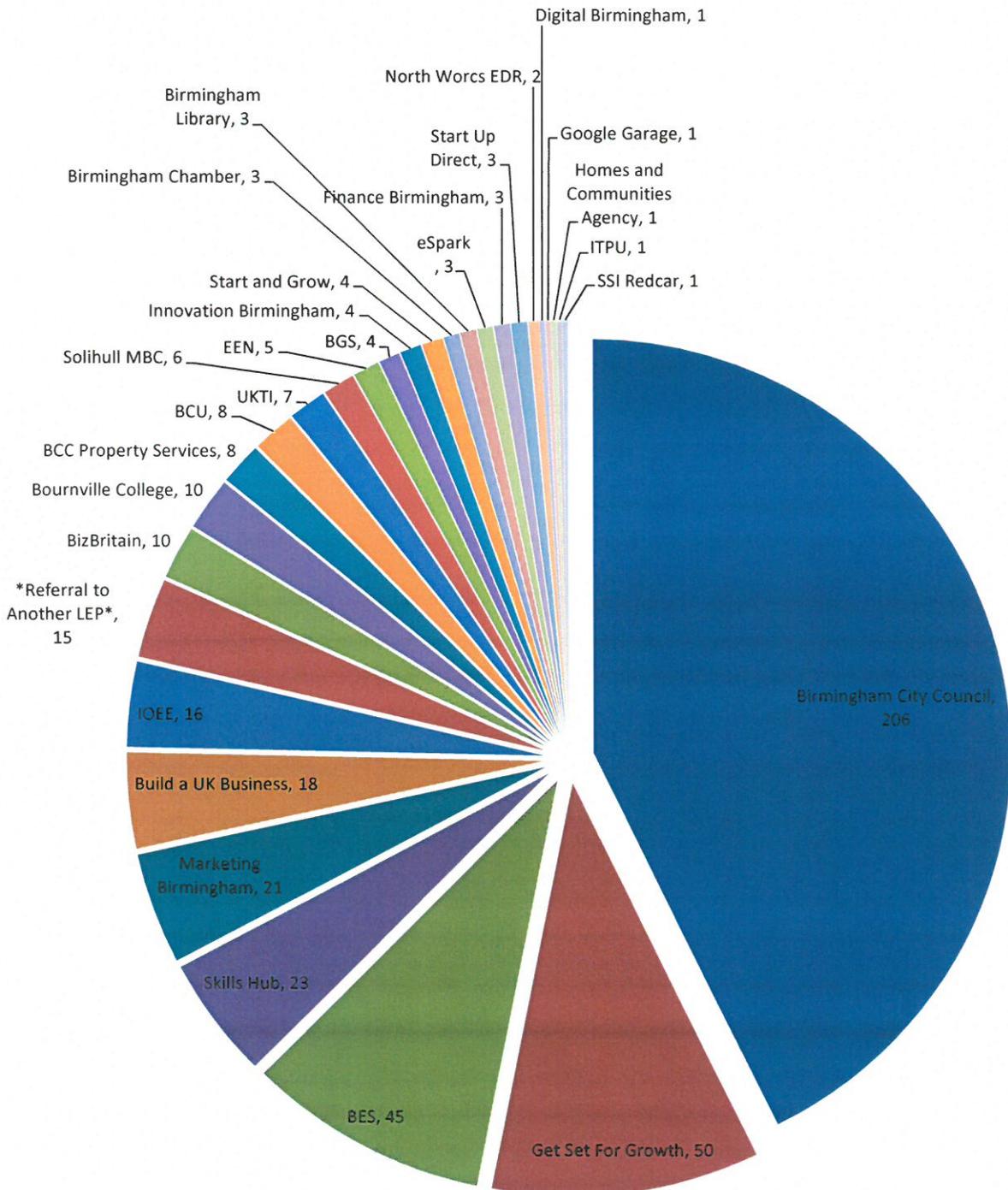
New Jobs - overall target 1000



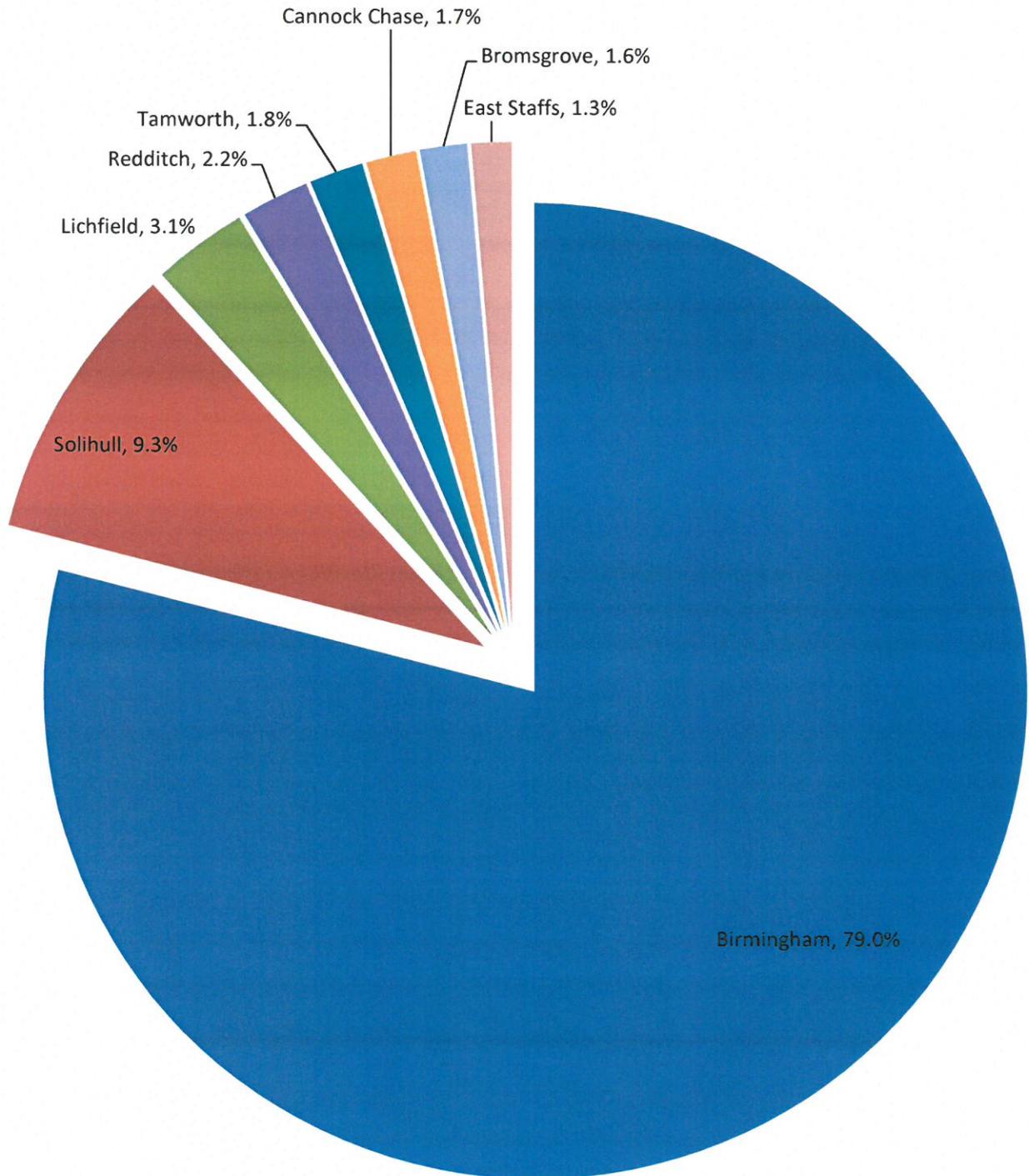
**GBSLEP Growth Hub
Business Support Referrals to Providers/Partners
at 29/02/2016**

	Privider	Referrals
1	Birmingham City Council	206
2	Get Set For Growth	50
3	BES	45
4	Skills Hub	23
5	Marketing Birmingham	21
6	Build a UK Business	18
7	IOEE	16
8	*Referral to Another LEP*	15
9	BizBritain	10
10	Bournville College	10
11	BCC Property Services	8
12	BCU	8
13	UKTI	7
14	Solihull MBC	6
15	EEN	5
16	BGS	4
17	Innovation Birmingham	4
18	Start and Grow	4
19	Birmingham Chamber	3
20	Birmingham Library	3
21	eSpark	3
22	Finance Birmingham	3
23	Start Up Direct	3
24	North Worcs EDR	2
25	Digital Birmingham	1
26	Google Garage	1
27	Homes and Communities Agency	1
28	ITPU	1
29	SSI Redcar	1
30	Total	482

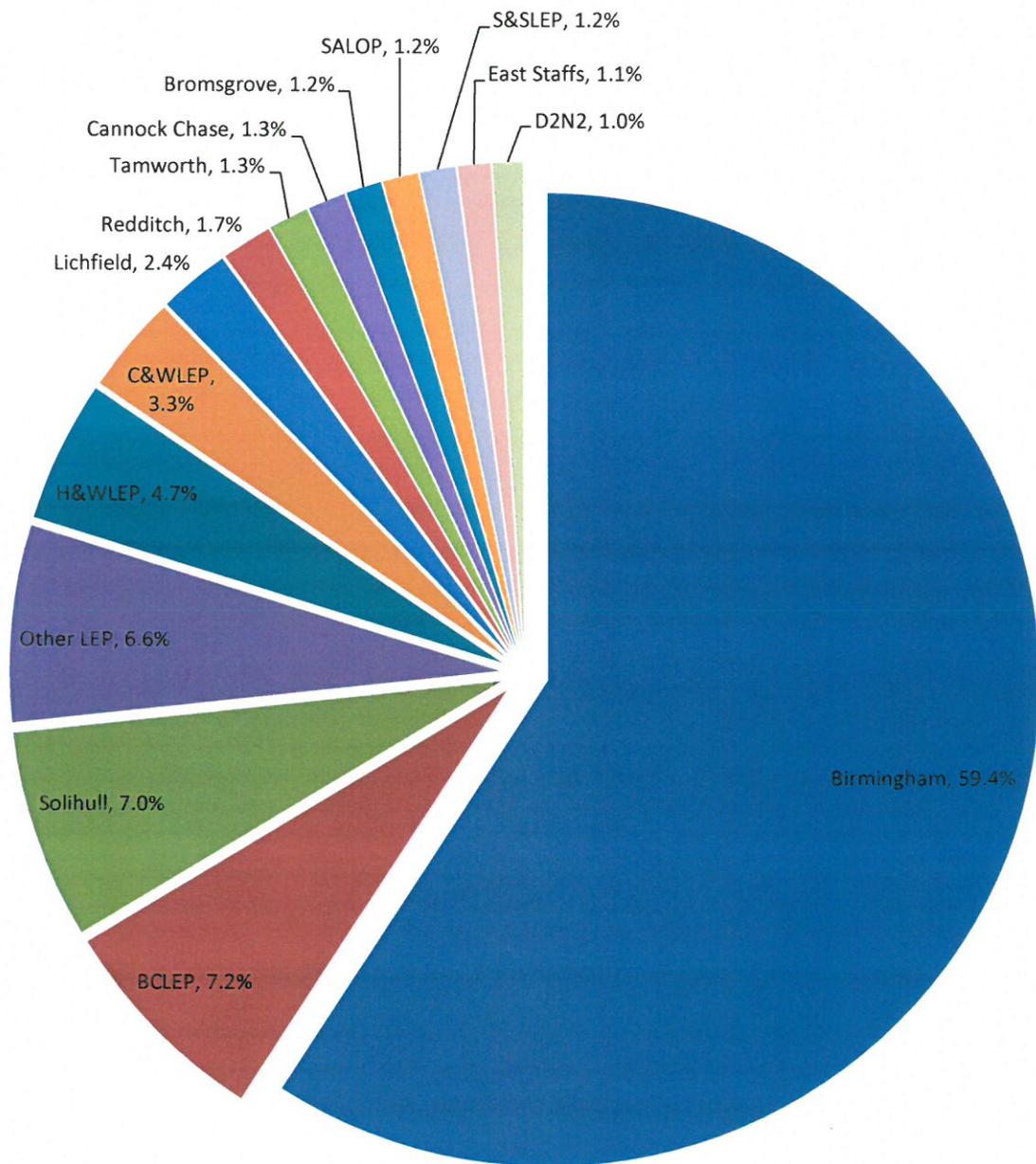
GBSLEP Growth Hub referrals at end Feb 2016



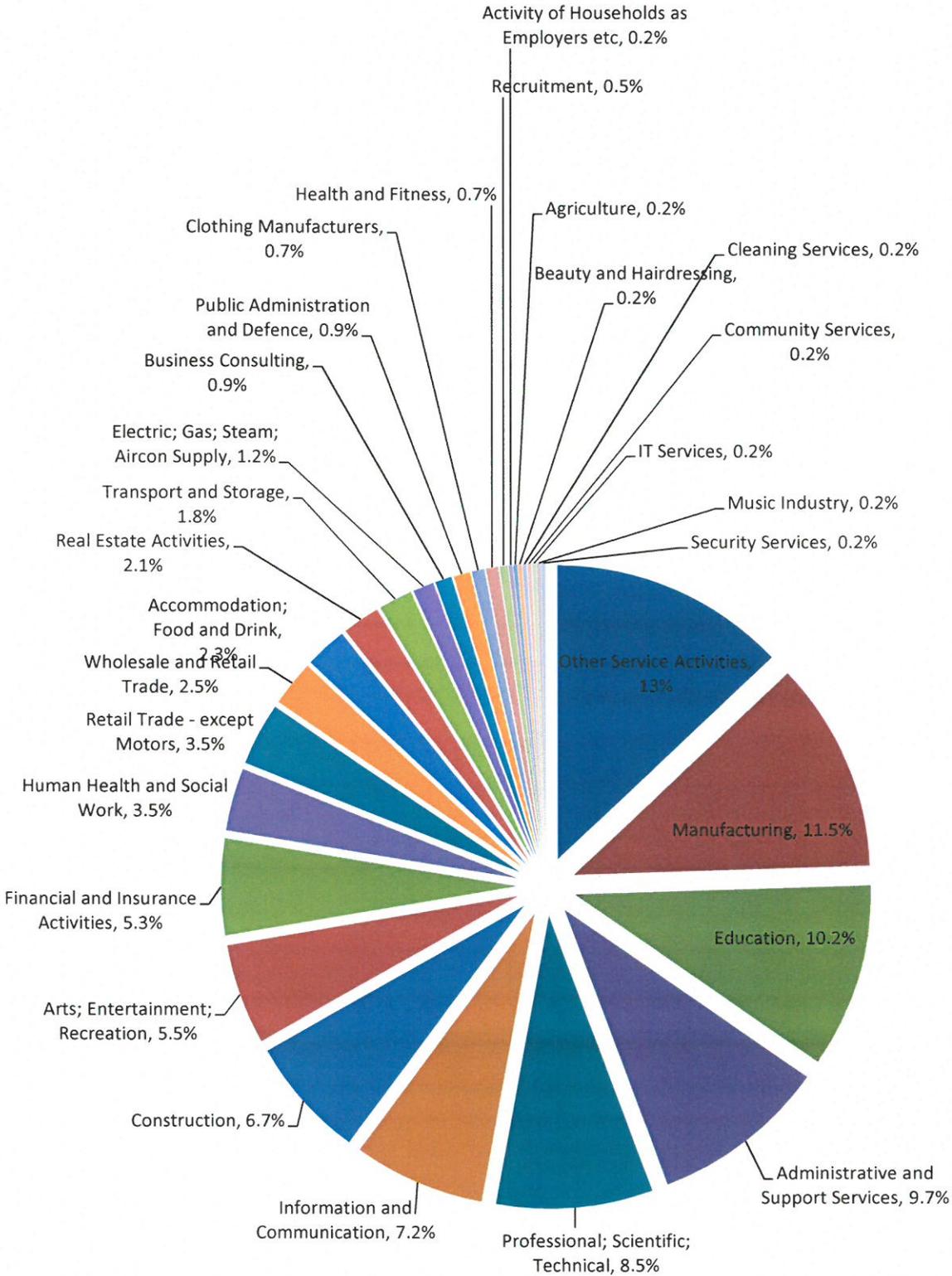
GBSLEP Growth Hub Enquiries (at end Feb 2016)



All Growth Hub Enquiries (at end February 2016)



GBSLEP Growth Hub Companies by Sector (at end of February 2016)



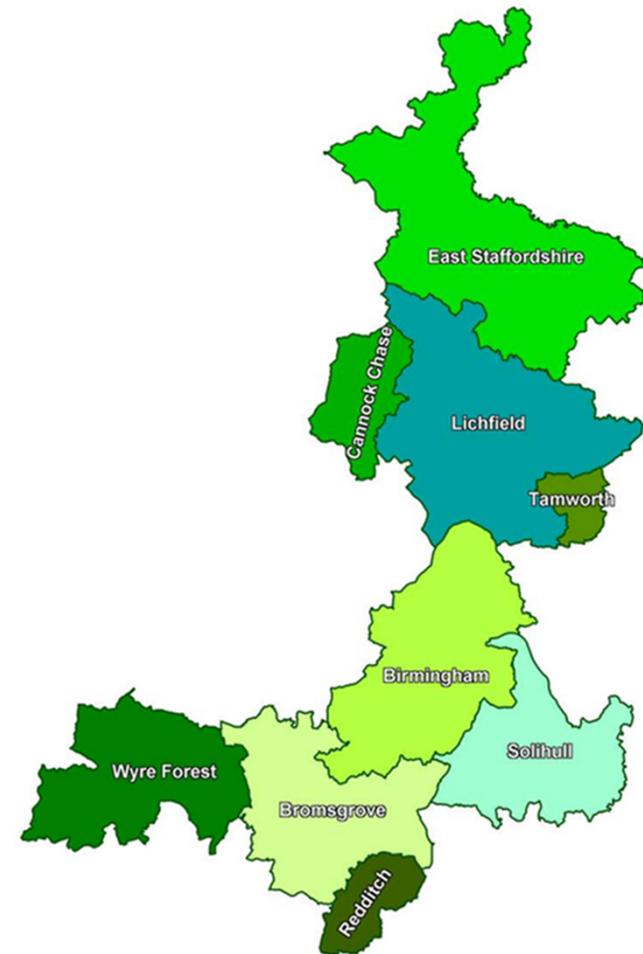
Employment, Skills and Growth Deal Opportunities

Rachel Egan

**Employment & Skills Lead, Greater Birmingham & Solihull Local Enterprise
Partnership**

Simple Mission:

To create jobs and grow the economy – and in doing so raise the quality of life for all of the LEP's population



Strategy for Growth

Strategic Enablers

Growing the
number of
successful
businesses

Building
sector
strengths and
opportunities

Stimulating
innovation in
products,
services and
businesses

Improving our
skills talent
pool

BUSINESS

PEOPLE

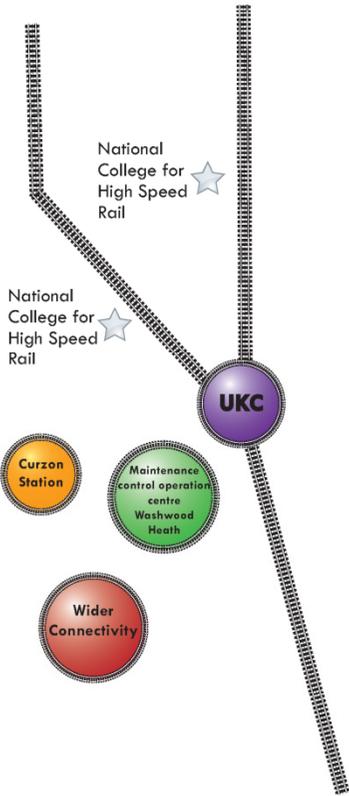
Improving
physical and
digital
connectivity

Optimising
physical,
cultural and
environmental
assets

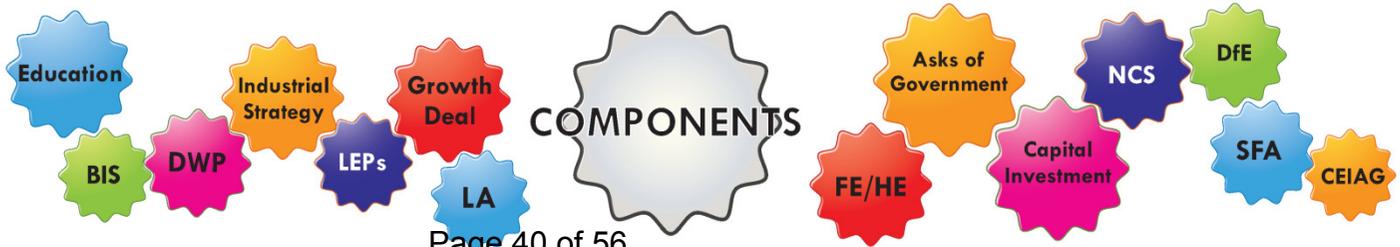
PLACE

Skills Masterplan The Engine of Growth

HS2 Growth Strategy

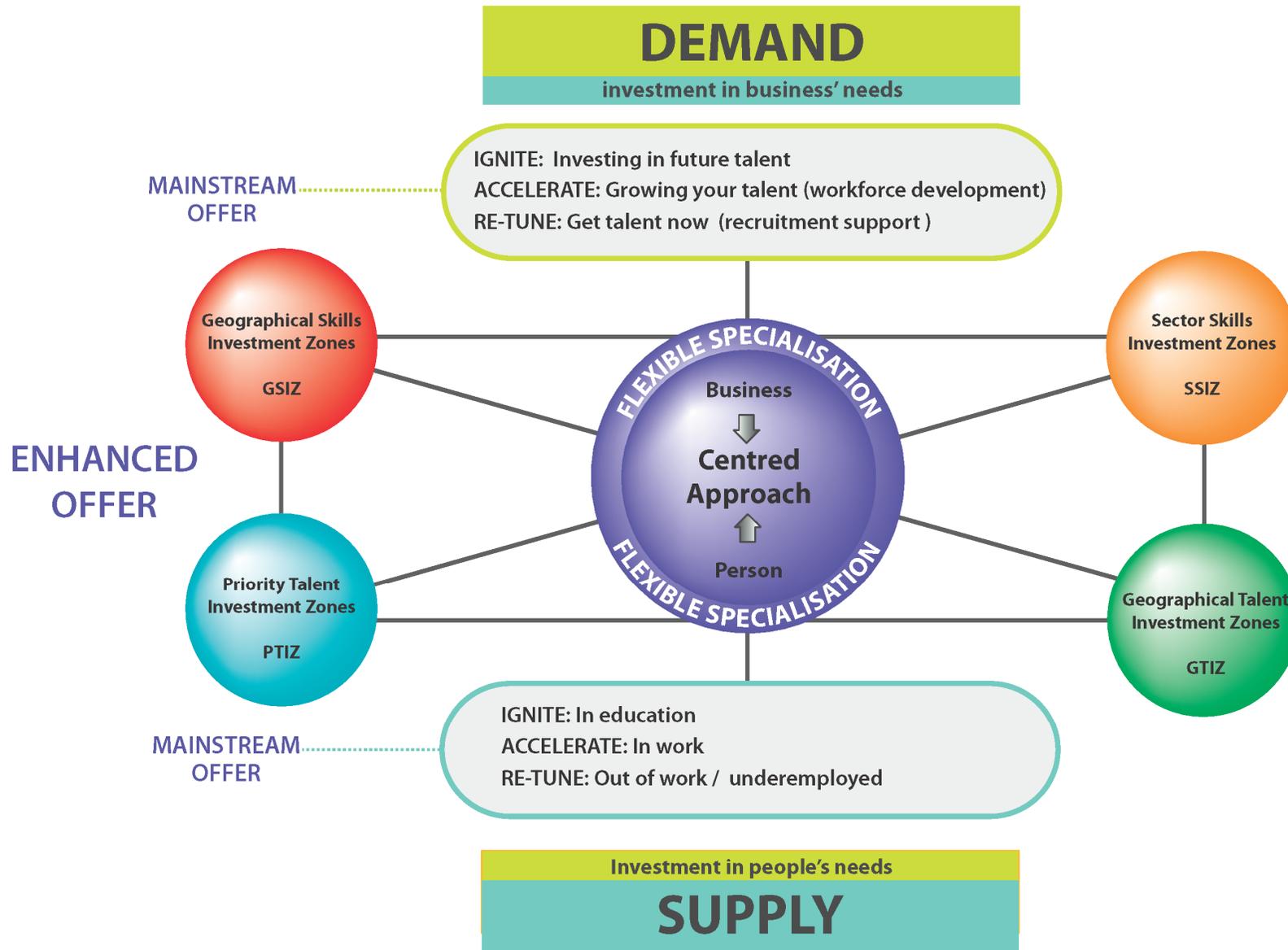


IGNITE	ACCELERATE	RE-TUNE	
<p>College Qualifications IAG Careers advice Business engagement Skills Show Education Apprenticeships Young people Universities Parents CV Inclusion Step Up Skills for Growth Social Interview skills Schools Work experience</p>	<p>Adaptable Workforce Career pathway Increased Productivity Promotion Learner Qualifications Personal Development Workforce development Workplaces Plans Courses Career Pathway Innovation leadership Reduction Staff Turnover On the job training Increased confidence Higher level skills Appraisal Joint investment Upskill Management</p>	<p>Work Ready Programme IAG Conversion Course Work experience Qualifications Career Social Inclusion Sector based work academy Universal Credit Pathway CV Interview Skills Work Clubs Careers Advice</p>	
Advanced Manufacturing	Knowledge Intensive Industries	Energy and Construction	Ancillary Services



EMPLOYMENT & SKILLS MARKET SHAPING

UNDERPINNING ECONOMIC INTELLIGENCE



- **Approved Skills Projects**

- National College for High Speed Rail
- University College Birmingham - Food Technology Skills Excellence Hub, providing specialist facilities
- South & City College Birmingham - JLR Engineering Centre for Manufacturing Support for engineering SMEs in the supply chain
- South & City College Birmingham - JLR Motor Vehicle Centre for Advanced Automotive Training and Skills, upgrading existing facilities
- South & City College Birmingham - Employability & Enterprise, Maintaining Quality Provision

- **Projects In Development**

- University College Birmingham - Summer Row Skills Enhancement project to support and help create growth in the service sector
- EEF Technology Training Centre

- **Future Skills Projects**

Briefing paper for Scrutiny

1.0 Introduction to the Green Commission

The Green Commission was established in 2012. The Commission's Vision Statement outlines our overall aim, which

'...is to create a leading green city for a better life and make Birmingham more prosperous, healthier, fairer, resource-efficient and better for business. In doing this we will enhance the quality of life and well-being for all of our citizens'

The vision also reiterates the city's target of a 60% carbon reduction by 2027 (about 42% of this will be comprised of national government activity, e.g. around decarbonising the energy grid). Following the publication of the vision, the Carbon Roadmap was produced to indicate some of the early projects that we would need to initiate or accelerate in order to move towards that target. The Vision and the Roadmap are both available on the Green Commission's website (www.makingbirminghamgreener.com).

2.0 Membership

The Green Commission has members drawn from across sectors: business, public sector, third sector and academia are all represented. The carbon reduction target will rely on input from partners across the whole city working in collaboration. In 2014 the decision was made to also include partners from the GBS LEP; these are included in the table below. Current membership is as follows:

Name	Organisation	Role in Green Commission
Cllr Lisa Trickett	Birmingham City Council	Chair
Michael Addison	Northfield Ecocentre	Board Member
Prof Bjorn Birgisson	Aston University	Board Member
Phil Beardmore	BVSC Environment Network Champion	Board Member
John Box	Chair of Birmingham & Black Country Local Nature Partnership	Board member Co-chair of the Natural Capital and Adaptation Roundtable
Peter Braithwaite	Sustainability West Midlands	Board Member
Councillor Ian Courts	Solihull MBC	Board Member
Paul Faulkner	Birmingham Chamber of Commerce	Board Member
Prof Martin Freer	University of Birmingham	Board member Chair of Energy and Resources Group
Jackie Homan	Birmingham City Council	
Pat Laughlin	Midlands Environmental Business Company (MEBC)	Board member Chair of the Green Growth Group
Peter Laybourn	International Synergies	Board Member
Martin Orrill	British Gas	Board Member
Mike Parker	LEP representative from North Worcestershire, Director of	Board Member

	Economic Prosperity & Place, Wyre Forest District Council	
Neil Ross	West Midlands ITA Policy & Strategy Team	Board Member
Anne Shaw	Birmingham City Council	Board Member Transport and Mobility lead
Georgia Stokes	Birmingham and Black Country Wildlife Trust	Board member Co-chair of the Natural Capital and Adaptation Roundtable
Karen Strandoo	Energy Saving Trust	Board member Chair of the Buildings and Efficiency Roundtable
Paul Woods	Engie (formerly Cofely)	Board Member

3.0 Key areas of work

The Carbon Roadmap identified 5 key areas of influence for the Green Commission; roundtables have been set up to support each of these and to bring in other people that want to work with us to support the low carbon agenda in Birmingham. The themes of the roundtables are as follows:

3.1 Energy and Resources

The Commission and its stakeholders have a key role through the Energy and Resources theme to collaborate as a multi-disciplinary group to:

- assess and develop energy and resource (including water) infrastructure investment opportunities;
- deliver interdisciplinary projects and leading research into energy and resources;
- create the conditions for industrial symbiosis and better resource management; and
- influence policy and investment decisions.

3.2 Natural Capital and Adaptation

The Green Commission's Natural Capital Roundtable will lead on capturing the value of nature and protecting and improving natural assets within GBSLEP. Areas for activity include:

- Making the case for a natural capital approach
- Demonstrating leadership
- Growing a green economy
- Practical action to protect and improve the natural environment
- Strengthening the connections between people and nature
- Monitoring and reporting

3.3 Green Growth and Behaviour Change

Through the Green Growth theme, the Green Commission will aim to:

- Communicate the benefits of building the 'green economy' for existing businesses and inward investment
- Ensure business growth is directly linked to green growth
- Create opportunities for business growth/jobs and through the LCGS sector but also the wider economy

3.4 Buildings and Efficiency

The Commission and its stakeholders have a key role through the Buildings and Efficiency theme to collaborate as a multi-disciplinary group to:

- improve the take-up of energy efficiency measures across the city's building stock;

- deliver Interdisciplinary projects and leading research into buildings and efficiency; and
- influence policy and investment decisions

3.5 *Transport and Mobility*

This does not run as a roundtable in its own right as there are other groups with an overlapping responsibility. This work is currently being delivered through the ITA's Connected Communities group.

4.0 Achievements, challenges and priorities (selected highlights)

Theme	Achievements	Challenges	Forthcoming priorities
Energy and Resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Masterplanning complete for district heating using Heat Network Delivery Unit (HNDU) funding – Birmingham and GBS LEP • Energy plan near completion for GBS LEP • Detailed feasibility study for heat networks taking place at Tyseley and imminently at Selly Oak • Decentralised energy study near completion for delivery model in Birmingham • Commissioned and delivered a technology foresighting study to inform the procurement of the waste contract • Secured funding for Interreg industrial symbiosis project. • Energy Research Accelerator and Energy Systems Catapult located in Birmingham offer significant partner opportunities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Creating new connections to district energy scheme • How to use planning and procurement to maximum effect (with changing national legislation) • BCC capacity to cover opportunities sufficiently • Ensuring that energy and resources infrastructure investment is holistic and coordinated – e.g. coordination of waste with energy. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establishing a dedicated delivery unit • Securing capital investment • Data and spatial analysis for priority infrastructure investment
Natural Capital and Adaptation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Natural capital planning tool to support inclusion of green infrastructure in new developments • Natural capital accounting – quantifying the benefits of natural capital • Rockefeller bid submitted to support resilience 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BCC capacity to cover opportunities sufficiently • Securing funding for service delivery • Embedding with other relevant areas of work 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development of the biodiversity SPD • Rollout of natural capital planning tool
Green Growth and Behaviour Change	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Currently involved in two public procurement of innovation projects 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Constraints with changes to national legislation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Construction and resource use • Links with developers (building

	<p>looking at energy efficiency measures in procurement</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Zero Emissions Cities project – supported by World Business Council for Sustainable Development • Sustainable Schools Programme accredited by the Global Learning Programme • Publications for awareness raising in schools (SKIPS books) – waste, energy and green travel completed to date 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Links across other service areas 	<p>on UKGBC event)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Awareness raising event ('Green Week')
Buildings and Efficiency	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UK Green Building Council (UKGBC) event – 150 delegates and potential new private sector partnership. • Procurement projects (above) are building-related and working with SMEs to deliver innovative solutions. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is the follow-on from BES? • Where is the capacity to deliver? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Realising the potential of devolution – what resources can be devolved to support city-scale retrofit? • Need for secondary legislation?
Transport and Mobility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Blueprint for low carbon infrastructure produced • LPG taxi project • Tyseley Energy Park – compressed natural gas refuelling station • Working with bus companies to support cleaner fuels 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Capacity to realise the extent of the opportunities • Funding to support the activity 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continued work to rollout blueprint • Links with decentralised energy and waste infrastructure • Maximising ERDF potential • Supporting delivery of Clean Air Zone opportunities

5.0 Partnership working

The Commission itself is a partnership organisation, with organisations and members bringing potential collaborative opportunities. The thematic roundtables (described above) bring an additional 100 organisations to the discussions on sustainability. For example:

- We have developed work with the University of Birmingham's Energy Research Accelerator and we are involved in their Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council project exploring the future potential of energy storage in Birmingham.
- MEBC brought the Zero Emissions Cities project to Birmingham (we are the only other European city participating along with Amsterdam).
- The TRIS project, that will enable further understanding of the contribution of industrial symbiosis to waste reduction in Birmingham, was introduced to the Green Commission by international Synergies (a Kings Norton-based company).

Further, the events and networking events that we hold bring further potential of external expertise and partnership working. The UKGBC, in a recent press release following their City Summit on 23rd and 24th Feb said:

It was abundantly clear over our two day summit that there is a huge appetite for collaboration from our industry-wide membership, who are brimming with innovative ideas needed to turn this ambition into reality.

The Green Commission will maximise this opportunity to work with additional partners to deliver on priorities.

6.0 Cross regional working particular reference to LEP area

The GBS LEP is involved in a number of ways:

- The Green Commission was opened up to membership from the GBS LEP. Three members initially attended, although East Staffordshire's representative was not re-elected and they have not sent a replacement.
- The roundtables are open to all members from the GBS LEP authority areas. In reality it is Solihull that are the most engaged with the work that we are doing.
- There is a GBS LEP Low Carbon Officers Group that has input into the spending of the European Regional Development Funds for low carbon.
- Some tangible studies have been carried out in low carbon activity across the GBS LEP – these are the heat network masterplanning study, the GBS LEP Energy Plan and the GBS LEP Low Carbon Transport Plan. The latter two studies are required in order to access ERDF funds, but still indicate where there is potential for collaboration.
- The Blueprint for Low Carbon Refuelling, and subsequent work to identify potential sites for investment has resulted in collaboration with other parts of the GBS LEP.
- Pat Laughlin (MEBC and Green Commission member) is the Low Carbon Goods and Services link for the GBS LEP.
- We need greater support for low carbon activity from the GBS LEP; it needs to be seen as something bound up with economic growth, not separate to it.

We are also supporting work that Sustainability West Midlands are doing to understand the potential of the Combined Authority.

7.0 How the Scrutiny Committee can feed in and support the work

The generic challenges in terms of sustainability are:

- The availability of data – up-to-date use and analysis of data to identify opportunities and for measuring and monitoring.

- Financial limitations – need for funding to support activity and investment will be required for roll-out of larger initiatives
- Policy challenges – national government policy support for sustainability is diminishing at a time when international calls for more action (e.g. through the COP21 in Paris last December) are increasing.
- Civil engagement – behaviour change is critical for realising carbon reduction and wider sustainability ambitions.
- Internal BCC engagement – sustainability needs to become an holistic part of our activity in order to provide improved social (e.g. reduced fuel poverty and more energy efficient homes); economic (e.g. energy security); and environmental (e.g. clean air and improved green infrastructure) outcomes. This is in keeping with the Council’s move to a more flexible and streamlined authority.
- Planning – in the absence of clear national policy, local planning mechanisms need establishing to ensure alignment with the city’s sustainability ambitions.

In terms of the role of Scrutiny, we would value that plans, programmes and projects are reviewed for their contribution to the city’s sustainability ambitions in order to make it a key part of the city’s activity, not a separate ‘add on’.



Economy, Skills & Sustainability O&S Committee: Work Programme 2015/16

Chair: Cllr Victoria Quinn

Committee Members: Cllrs Caroline Badley, David Barrie, Jerry Evans, Des Hughes, Timothy Huxtable, Ziaul Islam, Merion Jenkins, Josh Jones, John O'Shea, Habib Rehman and Claire Spencer

1 Meeting Schedule

Date	What	Officer Contact / Attendees
19th June 2015 (informal) 1000 hours Committee Room 6	Scrutiny Update	Emma Williamson, Head of Scrutiny Services
	Work Programme discussion including: Updates from Waheed Nazir on Planning and Regeneration issues and Anne Shaw on Transportation matters and Councillor Penny Holbrook on the Skills and Learning agenda	Benita Wishart/Baseema Begum, Scrutiny Office
10th July 2015 1000 hours Committee Rooms 3&4	Virgin Trains: West Coast Main Line Franchise	Phil Cavender, Route Director/ Annabel Gaba, Head of Public Affairs, Virgin Trains Communications
	Super September: Grand Central/New St Station Opening	Jacqui Kennedy, Acting Director for Place Others TBC
	Cabinet Member for Skills, Learning and Culture – Update on Culture agenda	Cllr Penny Holbrook Jon Lawton, Cabinet Support Officer
16th October 2015 1000 hours Committee Rooms 3&4	Movement for Growth: The West Midlands Strategic Transport Plan - Public Consultation Draft	Laura Shoaf, Strategic Director for Transport and Jake Thrush, Transport Strategy Manager, ITA
	Public Realm – The City's Streets, Squares & Spaces	Waheed Nazir, Director of Planning & Regeneration & Craig Rowbottom, Principal Development Planning Officer
	Birmingham Youth Promise	Councillor Penny Holbrook, Cabinet Member Shilpi Akbar, Assistant Director, Employment



Date	What	Officer Contact / Attendees
23rd October 2015 1000 hours Committee Rooms 3&4	Consultation with Committee on the Road Safety Strategy	Philip Edwards, Head of Growth & Transportation and David Harris, Transportation Policy Manager
	Birmingham Cycle Revolution - Miles Covered: Investigatory session to develop TOR to update the Changing Gear Report including Bike Life Report	Councillor Lisa Trickett, Cabinet Member Anne Shaw, Head of Transportation Services Varinder Raulia, Head of Infrastructure Projects Andy Middleton, Cycling Programme Manager Yvonne Gilligan, Sustrans
13th November 2015 1000 hours Committee Rooms 3&4	Rockefeller 100 Resilient Cities Challenge	Nick Grayson, Climate Change and Sustainability Manager
	Highways Challenges Around Major City Events	Deputy Leader Cabinet Member for Development, Transport and the Economy BCC Highways, Transportation & Major Events
11th December 2015 1000 hours Committee Rooms 3&4	Cabinet Member for Sustainability	Cllr Trickett, Cabinet Member
	Tracking Report for From Waste to Resource	Jacqui Kennedy, Acting Director for Place/ Chloe Tringham, FWM
	Tracking Report for Household Recycling Centres	Chloe Tringham, Fleet and Waste Management
15th January 2016 1000 hours Committee Rooms 3&4	Skills Investment Plan	Jane Newman, Employment Development Manager
	Severn Trent Water – Birmingham Resilience Project	Sarah-Jayne O’Kane, Public Relations Manager and Dominic Moore, Land and Planning Manager, Severn Trent Water Ltd
12th February 2016 1000 hours Committee Rooms 3&4	Cabinet Member for Development, Transport and the Economy	Chris Brockie, Cabinet Support Officer
	Flood Risk Management and Response Annual Report	Clive Wright, Drainage and Flood Risk Manager



Date	What	Officer Contact / Attendees
additional meeting 19th February 2016 1000 hours Committee Room 2	Update on Business Improvement Districts	Deputy Leader - Cllr Ian Ward Cabinet Member for Development, Transport and the Economy – Cllr Tahir Ali
11th March 2016 1000 hours Committee Rooms 3&4	Update on Green Commission	Councillor Lisa Trickett, Cabinet Member for Sustainability and Jackie Homan, Sustainability and Science Manager
	Greater Birmingham LEP – Employment, Skills and Growth Deal opportunities	Rachel Egan, Employment & Skills Manager, Solihull MBC & Skills Strategy lead for the GBSLEP; Shilpi Akbar, Assistant Director, Employment; Ian McLaughlan, GBSLEP Growth Hub Manager
8th April 2016 (tbc) 1000 hours Committee Room tbc	Draft Waste Consultation Strategy	Jacqui Kennedy
	Update on Smithfield Masterplan Consultation	Richard Cowell Area Planning and Regeneration Manager and Josie Turner, Senior Development Planning Officer
	TBC	

2 Further work areas of interest

2.1 The following work programme items could be scheduled if members wish to investigate further:

- Local Centres
- Work Programme Providers
- Housing Strategy/ Affordable housing/ Sustainable Urban Extension
- Technical City Enterprise Zone
- Update on the Enterprise Zones and lessons learned
- HS2 with reference to the Skills agenda



3 Other Meetings

16 th October	1.30 – 3.30pm	Visit to Virgin Trains HQ to learn about their skills and employee development practices and opportunities.
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Call in Meetings

29th May 2015	Westside Bid	Decision: Not Called-In
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Petitions

*None
scheduled*

Councillor Call for Action requests

*None
scheduled*

It is suggested that the Committee approve Friday at 10.00am as a suitable day and time each week for any additional meetings required to consider 'requests for call in' which may be lodged in respect of Executive decisions.

4 Forward Plan for Cabinet Decisions

The following decisions, extracted from the Cabinet Office Forward Plan of Decisions, are likely to be relevant to the Economy, Skills & Sustainability O&S Committee's remit.

Reference	Title	Portfolio	Proposed Date of Decision
001194/2016	City Wide Non-Housing Building Fabric Repairs & Maintenance Service Change / Improvement Strategy - PUBLIC	Commissioning, Contracting & Improvement	22 Mar 2016
000199/2015	Commercial Investment Property Portfolio Update	Deputy Leader	22 Mar 2016
001412/2016	Birmingham Knowledge Economy Business Incubation Partnership	Deputy Leader	22 Mar 2016
000329/2015	Sutton New Hall Cemetery Development - Phases 2 and 3	Development, Transport & the Economy	22 Mar 2016
001130/2016	Birmingham Life Science Campus Offer of Local	Development, Transport & the Economy	22 Mar 2016
001223/2016	Birmingham Cycle Revolution Phases 2 and 3 Green Routes Full Business Case	Development, Transport & the Economy	22 Mar 2016



Reference	Title	Portfolio	Proposed Date of Decision
001228/2016	Metro Complementary Highway Works – Swallow Street Link Revised Project Definition Document	Development, Transport & the Economy	22 Mar 2016
001246/2016	Enterprise Zone (EZ) Funding Agreements	Development, Transport & the Economy	22 Mar 2016
001415/2016	Centenary Square Re-Development	Development, Transport & the Economy	22 Mar 2016
001345/2016	Birmingham City Council acting as the Accountable Body for the GBS LEP Growth Deal	Leader	22 Mar 2016
000313/2015	Birmingham Cultural Strategy 2015-19	Skills, Learning & Culture	22 Mar 2016
001372/2016	ERDF Big Data Corridor A New Business Economy	Sustainability	22 Mar 2016
000315/2015	Iron Lane – Stechford Junction Improvements – Full Business Case	Development, Transport & the Economy	22 Mar 2016
000312/2015	Ashted Circus Pinch Point	Development, Transport & the Economy	19 Apr 2016
000316/2015	Battery Way Extension	Development, Transport & the Economy	19 Apr 2016
001227/2016	Building Birmingham: BMHT Development Programme for 2016/17 & 2017/18	Development, Transport & the Economy	19 Apr 2016
000934/2016	Local Growth Fund Transport and Connectivity Hagley Road SPRINT Scheme	Development, Transport & the Economy	19 Apr 2016
001414/2016	Curzon Investment Plan	Development, Transport & the Economy	19 Apr 2016
000223/2015	Birmingham Community Energy Company - PUBLIC	Sustainability	19 Apr 2016
000246/2015	HS2 Programme Delivery Plan and Resource Requirement	Deputy Leader	28 Jun 2016

