

Subject:	Admission of New Member to the Board		
Date of Meeting:	15 October 2019		
Report of:	Chair, Greater Brighton Economic Board		
Contact Officer:	Name:	Andy Hill	Tel: 01273 291873
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Ward(s) affected:	All		

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

- 1.1 At the Greater Brighton Economic Board (“the Board”) Meeting on 26 March 2019, a decision was taken to invite Arun District Council to become a constituent member of the Board, joining the Greater Brighton Economic Joint Committee (“GBEJC”), subject to both their agreement and formal ratification from the Board’s member organisations.
- 1.2 On 17 July 2019 a Council decision was made by Arun District Council to join the Board.
- 1.3 The GBEJC is a joint committee established pursuant to section 102 of the Local Government Act 1972. The Local Government Act 1972 and The Local Authorities Arrangements for the Discharge of Functions (England) Regulations 2012 require the constituent authorities of a joint committee to decide the membership of that committee and it was therefore necessary for each of the local authority members of the Board to decide that Arun District Council should become a member of GBEJC.
- 1.4 Local authority Board Members have taken an individual decision to ratify Arun District Council joining the GBEJC. Full details of these decisions can be found in Background Documents.
- 1.5 At Worthing Borough Council and Adur District Council the decision to ratify Arun’s membership of the Board is tabled for Full Council meetings on 22 October 2019 and 31 October 2019 respectively.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 2.1 That subject to agreement from Full Council at Adur District Council and Worthing Borough Council, the Board officially approves that Arun District Council joins the GBEJC.
- 2.2 That the Board agree to amend the Board’s Heads of Terms at Appendix 1.

3. CONTEXT/ BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 3.1 The Greater Brighton Economic Board was founded in April 2014 as part of the Greater Brighton City Region’s City Deal with Government.
- 3.2 The Board comprises the Greater Brighton Economic Joint Committee (“GBEJC”), on which the local authorities are represented; and the Greater Brighton Business Partnership (“GBBP”), on which the Coast to Capital Local Enterprise Partnership, business, university and further education sectors, and South Downs National Park Authority are represented. Meetings of the Board compromise concurrent meetings of GBEJC and GBBP.
- 3.3 The following bodies are members of the Board:
- i. Brighton & Hove City Council
 - ii. Adur District Council
 - iii. Worthing Borough Council
 - iv. Lewes District Council
 - v. Mid-Sussex District Council
 - vi. Crawley Borough Council
 - vii. University of Sussex
 - viii. University of Brighton
 - ix. Further Education Representative
 - x. Coast to Capital Local Enterprise Partnership
 - xi. Brighton & Hove Economic Partnership
 - xii. Adur & Worthing Business Partnership
 - xiii. Coastal West Sussex Partnership
 - xiv. South Downs National Park Authority
 - xv. Gatwick Airport Ltd
- 3.4 GBEJC comprises the bodies specified in paragraphs 3.3(i) to (vi); and GBBP comprises the bodies specified in paragraphs 3.3(vi) to (xv).
- 3.5 Board membership has been extended once since the Board’s inception; in February 2018 Crawley Borough Council and Gatwick Airport joined the GBEJC and GBBP respectively.
- 3.6 Working in partnership, the Greater Brighton City Region has brought significant benefits to the partner Local Authorities and agencies. Together the partnership has secured around £160m of Growth Deal funding held by the Coast to Capital Local Enterprise Partnership.
- 3.7 The Board’s success and growing reputation has gained interest across the region, and Crawley Borough Council and Gatwick Airport Ltd joined the partnership in February 2018. At the start of 2019 a set of Five Year Strategic Priorities was agreed by the Board. As part of developing the priorities, consideration was given to what the future membership of the Board would look like, and how it might evolve over the next five years. It was agreed that the Board should adopt a fair and consistent approach to organisations that express an interest in joining, and for proposed new members consideration would need to be given to the following five questions;

- i. Does the organisation buy into the Board's agreed vision and priorities?
- ii. Do they share economic characteristics and represent the Greater Brighton functional economic area?
- iii. Do they add capacity to help the Board deliver on its agreed vision and priorities?
- iv. Will they add to the Board's reputation, in terms of legitimacy, standing and reach?
- v. Are they going to actively participate and commit resource to supporting the Board and deliver the work programme?

3.8 Some points for consideration are summarised below:

3.8.1 Functional Economic Area

- Arun lies within both the Housing Market area and Functional Economic Market Area of that part of the coast including all or parts of Adur, Worthing, Brighton & Hove, Lewes and Mid Sussex.
- Arun provides jobs for around 4,500 Greater Brighton residents, whilst 9,000 of Arun's residents are employed across the City Region.
- Arun's economy supports around 55,000 jobs, and the addition of Arun to Greater Brighton would take the City Region's job base (currently circa 475,000) to over half a million, which would be a significant milestone.
- The current Gross Value Added (GVA) of Greater Brighton is around £23.1bn. Arun's economy currently generates around £2.3bn GVA, which would represent a 10% uplift to the current Greater Brighton Economy.
- Estimates from Experian indicate that Greater Brighton could grow by around 73,000 jobs over the next 20 years, with growth in Arun being around 5,300 new jobs over the same time period. If included in Greater Brighton, the projected job growth in Arun would provide an uplift of around 7% to the City Region total.
- Arun has a distinct local concentration of knowledge-based manufacturing and engineering activities. Supporting growth in specialised and highly-productive industries is a key objective of the Government's Industrial Strategy.

3.8.2 Housing Delivery

- ONS statistics show that in 2016 around 1,900 people moved out of Greater Brighton and into the Arun region, specifically from Worthing and Brighton & Hove.
- Arun has significant potential to increase future capacity for housing and employment space in Greater Brighton. Current Local Plans for the six Greater Brighton local authorities give a combined figure of around 49,000 new homes to be built up to 2032. Arun's Local Plan, which was adopted in June 2018, makes provision to deliver 20,000 dwellings over the period. This would increase the City Region's housing delivery by 40%.

3.8.3 Employment Land Supply

- Commercial property market intelligence indicates that businesses from Greater Brighton, particularly along the coast, seeking new accommodation for expansion or upgrading would be likely to consider Arun if there was a lack of suitable floor-space in their districts, particularly as regards larger space requirements.
- The Arun Local Plan makes provision for significant capacity for additional employment floor space, which could supplement the City Region's constrained supply. The Local Plan provides allocations for around 292,000m² of floor space capacity. The most significant allocation is Enterprise Bognor Regis and this space has started to come forward for development.

3.8.4 Skills

- Chichester University (Bognor Regis Campus) has invested over £50m with direct assistance from the Council for the new Learning and Resource Centre and the new Tech Park at the Bognor Regis Campus. The Learning Resource Centre will promote STEM courses and bring 1,500 new students to the town.

3.8.5 Infrastructure and Other Priorities

- The ambition and vision for housing outlined in 3.8.1 require significant infrastructure support. Arun's Infrastructure Delivery Plan sets out the requirements, which include the development of a new secondary school and nine primary schools on top of current educational expansion. The A27, A259 east-west corridor and north-south A23 corridor are both key priorities for Arun.
- Arun can actively contribute to the Board's future work plan, particularly on housing, economic growth, strategic planning and adding new projects to the pipeline for future funding bids to Government and others.
- Arun's membership would give additional capacity and capability to deliver sub-regional spatial priorities in a coordinated way, building on existing mechanisms such as the West Sussex and Greater Brighton Strategic Planning Board.

4. ANALYSIS & CONSIDERATION OF ANY ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

- 4.1 An alternative would be for the membership to remain as it is currently, but for the reasons outlined in 3.8.1-3.8.5 this is not recommended.

5. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT & CONSULTATION

- 5.1 None required

6. CONCLUSION

- 6.1 The Board is asked to note the benefits of Arun District Council joining the Board and accordingly approve that Arun District Council joins the GBEJC. This is

subject to formal agreement from Full Council at Worthing Borough Council on 22 October 2019, and Full Council at Adur District Council on 31 October 2019.

7. FINANCIAL & OTHER IMPLICATIONS:

Financial Implications:

- 7.1 Any financial commitments and benefits associated with membership to the Greater Brighton Economic Board in relation to Arun DC is dependent upon the decision of all the local authorities represented on the Joint Committee obtaining approval that Arun DC be appointed as a new member. As a constituent member of the Greater Brighton Economic Board Arun DC will make an annual financial contribution toward the operating costs associated with the Board. The operational arrangements for 2019/20 were approved at the Board on 29 March 2019 therefore Arun DC will make a contribution in line with the funding calculation outlined in the report from 1 April 2020.

Finance Officer Consulted: Rob Allen, Principal Accountant
Date: 23/09/19

Legal Implications:

The GBEJC is a joint committee established pursuant to section 102 of the Local Government Act 1972. The Local Government Act 1972 and The Local Authorities (Arrangements for the Discharge of Functions (England) Regulations 2012 require the constituent authorities of a joint committee to decide the membership of that committee. The constituent authorities have now made the decision that Arun District Council should join the Board.

Lawyer Consulted: Joanne Dougnaglo, Senior Property Lawyer
Date: 19/09/19

Equalities Implications:

- 7.2 None

Sustainability Implications:

- 7.3 None

Any Other Significant Implications:

- 7.4 None

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

Appendices:

1. Revised Heads of Terms for Greater Brighton Economic Board

Background Documents:

1. Ratification Decision by [Crawley Borough Council](#)
2. Ratification Decision by [Brighton & Hove City Council](#)
3. Ratification Decision by [Lewes District Council](#)
4. Ratification Decision by [Mid Sussex District Council](#)

Appendix 1: Heads of Terms for Greater Brighton Economic Board (26 March 2019)

1. Establishment, Purpose and Form

- 1.1. The Greater Brighton Economic Board (“The Board”) shall be established from the Commencement Date.
- 1.2. The over-arching purpose of the board is to bring about sustainable economic development and growth across Greater Brighton (‘the City Region’). To achieve this, the principal role of the Board is to co-ordinate economic development activities and investment at the regional level.
- 1.3. The Board comprises the Greater Brighton Economic Joint Committee (“GBEJC”), on which the local authorities will be represented; and the Greater Brighton Business Partnership (“GBBP”), on which the Coast to Capital Local Enterprise Partnership, business, university and further education sectors will be represented?
- 1.4. Meetings of the Board comprise concurrent meetings of GBEJC and GBBP.
- 1.5. GBEJC shall be a joint committee appointed by two or more local authorities represented on the Board, in accordance with section 120(1)(b) of the Local Government Act 1972.
- 1.6. The Board may appoint one or more sub-committees.
- 1.7. For the two years starting with the Commencement Date, the lead authority for the Board shall be Brighton & Hove City Council (“BHCC”), whose functions in that capacity shall include the provision of scrutiny (see paragraph 4.3), management of the call-in and review process (see paragraph 8), and the support detailed in paragraph 12.
- 1.8. Unless the Board resolves otherwise, before the start of the third year following the Commencement Date, and every two years thereafter, the Board shall review the lead authority arrangements and, subject to paragraph 1.9, invite each of the local authorities represented on the Board to submit an expression of interest in fulfilling the role of lead authority for the subsequent two year period. The Board shall then instigate a procurement exercise to select the most appropriate authority for that role.
- 1.9. Notwithstanding the appointment of a successor lead authority pursuant to paragraph 1.8, the incumbent lead authority may retain such of their Accountable Body functions as are necessary to enable that local authority to comply with its on-going commitments and liabilities associated with its Accountable Body status.

2. Interpretation

- 2.1. In these Heads of Terms –
 - i. ‘Commencement Date’ means 1st April 2014.

- ii. 'City Region' means the area encompassing the administrative boundaries of BHCC, Adur District Council, Worthing Borough Council, Lewes District Council, Mid Sussex District Council, Crawley Borough Council and Arun District Council; and 'regional' shall be construed accordingly;
- iii. 'economic development' shall bear its natural meaning but with particular emphasis given to :
 - Employment and skills;
 - Infrastructure and transport
 - Housing;
 - Utilisation of property assets;
 - Strategic planning;
 - Economic growth.
- iv. 'Accountable Body' means the local authority represented on the Board carrying out the function set out in paragraph 12.2.

3. Functions

3.1. The Functions of the Board are specified in paragraph 3.2 below and may be exercised only in respect of the Region.

3.2. The functions referred to in paragraph 3.1 are as follows:

- i. To make long term strategic decisions concerning regional economic development and growth;
- ii. To be the external voice to Government and investors regarding the management of devolved powers and funds for regional economic growth;
- iii. To work with national, sub-national (in particular the Coast to Capital Local Enterprise Partnership) and local bodies to support a co-ordinated approach to economic growth across the region;
- iv. To secure funding and investment for the Region;
- v. To ensure delivery of, and provide strategic direction for, major projects and work stream enabled by City Deal funding and devolution of powers;
- vi. To enable those bodies to whom section 110 of the Localism Act 2011 applies to comply more effectively with their duty to co-operate in relation to planning of sustainable development.
- vii. To incur expenditure on matters relating to economic development where funds have been allocated directly to the Board for economic development purposes; and for the avoidance of doubt, no other expenditure shall be incurred unless due authority has been given by each body represented on the Board.

3.3. In discharging its function specified in paragraph 3.2 (Viii) above, the Board shall-

- i. (save in exceptional circumstances) seek to invest funding on the basis of-
 - a Proportionality, by reference to the economically active demographic of each administrative area within the city Region;
 - b Deliverability;
 - c Value for money and return on investment / cost benefit ratio; and
 - d Economic impact to the City Region as a whole.
- ii. Delegate implementation of that function to the lead authority, who shall also act as Accountable Body in relation to any matters failing within that function.

4. Reporting and Accountability

- 4.1. The Board shall submit an annual report to each of the bodies represented on the Board.
- 4.2. The Greater Brighton Officer Programme Board shall report to the Board and may refer matters to it for consideration and determination.
- 4.3. The work of the Board is subject to review by an ad hoc joint local authority scrutiny panel set up and managed by the lead authority.

5. Membership

5.1. The following bodies shall be members of the Board:

- i. Brighton & Hove City Council
- ii. Adur District Council
- iii. Worthing Borough Council
- iv. Lewes District Council
- v. Mid-Sussex District Council
- vi. Crawley Borough Council
- vii. Arun District Council
- viii. University of Sussex
- ix. University of Brighton
- x. Further Education Representative
- xi. Coast to Capital Local Enterprise Partnership
- xii. Brighton & Hove Economic Partnership
- xiii. Adur & Worthing Business Partnership
- xiv. Coastal West Sussex Partnership
- xv. South Downs National Park Authority
- xvi. Gatwick Airport Ltd

5.2. GBEJC shall comprise the bodies specified in paragraphs 5.1(i) to (vii); and GBBP shall comprise the bodies specified in paragraphs 5(viii) to (xvi).

5.3. Each of the bodies listed in paragraph 5.1 shall be represented at the Board by one person, save that BHCC shall, by reason of it being a unitary authority, be represented by two persons (as further specified in paragraph 5.4).

- 5.4. Each local authority member shall be represented at the Board by its elected Leader and, in the case of BHCC, by its elected Leader and the Leader of the Opposition.
- 5.5. Each business sector member shall be represented at the Board by the Chairman of that member or by a person nominated by the Board of that member.
- 5.6. Each university member shall be represented by a Vice Chancellor or Pro Vice-Chancellor of that university or by a person nominated by that university member.
- 5.7. Each further education member shall be represented by its Principal or the Chair of its Governing Body or by a person nominated by that further education member.

6. Chair

- 6.1. The Chair of GBEJC shall, by virtue of his/her democratic mandate, be Chair of the Board
- 6.2. If the Chair of GBEJC is unable to attend a Board meeting, the Board shall elect a substitute from its local authority member representatives provided that no such member representative attending in the capacity of a substitute shall be appointed as Chair of GBEJC / the Board.
- 6.3. The Chair of GBEJC for its first year of operation shall be the Leader of BHCC
- 6.4. The Chair will be elected annually by members of the GBEJC. Election of the Chair will be conducted through a formal process performed by the Democratic Services Team of the Lead Authority. The elected Chair will be appointed at the first meeting of the Board in the new municipal year. A Chair may be re-elected but shall not serve as Chair for more than 4 years.

7. Voting

- 7.1. Each person represents a member of GBEJC, and each person representing a member of the GBBP, shall be entitled to vote at their respective meetings.
- 7.2. Voting at each of the concurrent meetings of GBEJC and GBBP shall be by show of hands or, at the discretion of the chair, by any other means permitted by law, and voting outcomes reached at those meetings shall be on a simple majority of votes cast.
- 7.3. Where voting at a meeting of GBEJC results in an equal number of votes cast in favour and against, the Chair of GBEJC shall have a casting vote.
- 7.4. Where voting at a meeting of GBEJC results in an equal number of votes cast in favour and against, the motion/proposal/recommendation under consideration shall fall in relation of GBBP.

7.5. Where the respective voting outcomes of GBEJC and GBBC are the same, that shall be taken as the agreed Board decision and the Board may pass a resolution accordingly.

7.6. Where the respective voting outcomes of GBEJC and GBBP differ, the Board –

- i. May not pass a resolution relating to that matter; and
- ii. May refer the matter to the Chief Executive of the lead authority, who may consult with members of the Board or such other persons as are appropriate, with a view to achieving agreement on the matter between GBEJC and GBBP by discussion and negotiation.

7.7. Where, pursuant to paragraph 7.6(ii), agreement is reached the matter at issue shall be remitted to, and voted upon at, the next meeting of the Board.

7.8. Where, pursuant to paragraph 7.6(ii), no agreement is reached the motion/proposal/recommendation at issue shall fall.

8. Review of decision

8.1. Decisions of the Board will be subject to call-in and review in the following circumstances:

- i. Where a local authority voted to agree a recommendation at a GBEJC meeting, but the decision of the Board was not to agree the recommendation.
- ii. Where a local authority voted against a recommendation at a GBEJC meeting, but the decision of the Board considered that the interests of the body they represent had been significantly prejudiced; or
- iii. Where any local authority represented on the Board considered that the interests of the body they represent had been significantly prejudiced; or
- iv. Where any local authority represented on the Board considered that the Board had made a decision beyond its scope of authority.

8.2. The procedure for requesting, validation, and implementing a call-in and review is specified in Schedule 1.

8.3. Where a request for call-in is accepted, the Board decision to which it relates shall be stayed pending the outcome of the call-in.

8.4. Following call-in, the panel convened to review a Board decision may refer the decision back to the Board for re-consideration. Following referral, the Board shall, either at its next scheduled meeting or at a special meeting called for the purpose, consider the panel's concerns over the original decision.

8.5. Having considered the panel's concerns, the Board may alter its original decision or re-affirm it. Paragraph 8.1 shall not apply to the Board's follow-up decision. In consequence, the latter decision may be implemented without further delay.

9. Substitution

9.1. Subject to paragraph 9.2, representatives are expected to attend all meetings however, where a representative of a member of the Board is unable to attend a Board meeting, a substitute representative of that member may attend, speak and vote, in their place for that meeting.

9.2. A substitute member must be appointed from a list of approved substitutes submitted by the respective member to the Board at the start of each municipal year.

10. Quorum

10.1 No business shall be transacted at any meeting of the Board unless at least one third of all member bodies are present, and both GBEJC and GPBBP are quorate.

10.2 Quorum for GBEJC meetings shall be three member bodies.

10.3. Quorum for GBBP meetings shall be three member bodies.

11. Time and Venue of Meetings

11.1 Ordinary meetings of the Board shall be convened by the lead authority and will rotate around the City Region.

11.2 The Chair of the Board may call a special meeting of the Board at any time, subject to providing members with minimum notice of two working days.

12. Administrative, financial and legal support

12.1 The lead authority shall provide the following support services to the Board:

- i. Administrative, as more particularly specified in the Memorandum of Understanding pursuant to paragraph 13;
- ii. Financial (including the Accountable body function specified in paragraph 12.2); and
- iii. Legal, comprising Monitoring Officer and Proper Officer functions in relation to GBEJC meetings.

12.2 The function of the Accountable Body is to take responsibility for the financial management and administration of external grants and funds provided to the Board, and of financial contributions by each member of the Board, as more particularly specified in the Memorandum of Understanding Pursuant to paragraph 13. In fulfilling its role as Accountable Body, the lead authority shall remain independent of the Board.

12.3 Other members of the Board shall contribute to the reasonable costs incurred by the lead authority in connection with the activities described in paragraphs 12.1 and 12.2, at such time and manner as the Memorandum of Understanding shall specify.

13 Memorandum of Understanding

13.1 Members of the Board may enter into a memorandum of understanding setting out administrative and financial arrangements as between themselves relating to the functioning of the Board.

13.2 The memorandum may, in particular, provide for –

13.2.1 Arrangements as to the financial contributions by each member towards the work of the Board, including:

13.2.1.1 The process by which total financial contributions are calculated;

13.2.1.2 The process for determining the contribution to be paid by each member;

13.2.1.3 The dates on which contribution are payable;

13.2.1.4 How the Accountable Body shall administer and account for such contributions;

13.2.2 Functions of the Accountable Body; and

13.2.3 The terms of reference for the Greater Brighton Officer Programme Board.

14 Review and Variation of Heads of Terms

14.1 The Board shall keep these Heads of Terms under review to ensure that the Board's purpose is given full effect.

14.2 These Heads of Terms may be varied only on a resolution of the Board to that effect, and subject to the approval of each body represented on the Board

