

Economic Growth Steering Board Meeting Notes:

23.10.2020 2-4pm (On Zoom)

Chair: Peter Nolan

Vice-Chair: Richard Venables

Attendees:

Confirmed-Cllr Susan Brown, Peter Nolan, Matt Peachey, Clayton Lavallin, Ahmed Goga (from 3pm), Grant Hayward, Tom Edwards, Richard Rosser, Tony Hart, Carolyn Ploszynski, Peter Reynolds, Leah Bryan, Richard Venables, Dr Stuart Wilkinson,

TBC - Phil Clare, Peter Wilder, Adrian Cooper, Llewelyn Morgan,

Apologies:

David Hartley, Iain Nicholson, Tom Bridgman, Hayley Beer-Gamage

Notes/Actions:

Item	Lead	Notes (Key Discussion Points)	Actions (Who/What/By when)
1. Welcome and apologies	Chair: Peter Nolan	<i>Taken by Clayton Lavallin in meeting</i>	
2. Minutes of the previous meeting, actions and matters raising	Chair: Peter Nolan	No minutes from previous meeting as notes were taken by the consultants and were used to inform the Economic Strategy	
3. Updates			
a) OxLEP	a) Ahmed Goga	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• LIS update;• Investment plan submitted to Government in Sept, landed well.	

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Initial meetings with treasury. This has highlighted the vital importance of West End Global innovation, and its district-critical role to unlock wider growth and development. The opportunities in this have not been presented beyond the business case and LIS, seen as transport focused. A Pitch pack will be needed to help articulate the vision. Need to be mindful about spending announcements which could impact positively for us. Ministers interested in big ticket initiatives, despite postponement of the Comprehensive Spending Review. Substantial potential for national impact. More widely Oxfordshire businesses have primed the minsters on opportunities in green tech, fusion and e-tech with high performance manufacturing. Right conversations are happening. • LIS aligns partners, we are strengthening case inside government. <p>ACTION: Matt/Tom B to follow up re: Pitch Pack</p> <p><u>Oxford Cambridge ARC:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prospectus launched 2 weeks ago. LIS relevant to ARC also. We need to do more on place as it is homogenised in the ARC. The prospectus has innovation areas, Inc. 20 LIS propositions. These need to be made more visual. Net zero, green arc and skills sections. The regeneration areas not in the ARC but are transformative. West end and station quarter, how do we get more energy and support around this scheme. • CSR postponement is important, 12 month announcement will mean we cannot meet the scale anticipated but we are well placed for place based interventions. • The messaging needs to be right on this interventions proposed • Press coverage of expressway re-emerging? Not in the prospectus. <p><u>County wide recovery plan</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recovery plan is being worked through with the task force with Universities and councils. Details are being finessed. Finalising the baseline data is challenging as the data is always moving in real time. • Baseline analysis raises 1. Overall Economy is remarkably resilient, sectors relatively good Trajectory is the right one esp. science and technology. R&D facilities are above pre-COVID peak. 2. Visitor economy hot hardest Inc., retail, hospitality, creative, arts, tourism etc. Retail important for employment for young people and women. 3. Contraction of economy-12 months of growth lost. • Caveats: This will change over winter and uncertain post-furlough. Chancellor’s announcements are targeted measures, a lot of areas fall outside. <p>Working session of task group in 2 weeks’ time.</p> <p>Recovery Plan has 4 elements</p>
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b) Town Centre Renaissance Programme	b/c) Matt Peachey	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Business model sensitive • More start-ups during recession • Business Support vital as part of meanwhile space and exit planning to support transitions out of the spaces longer term • LIS phases may link in with this initiative • Should we consider a longer term planning use class change where businesses thrive in these meanwhile locations? • Catalyst for wider change, to aid transformation of the high street, longer term support key • Introduction of Class E, flex between A and B classes without planning permission. Impacts on leasing. Partnerships with landlords will be key to protect high street. • Support from operator to help businesses graduate, need for support for failures • Challenge to engage landlords. • Capital fund for improvements. • Landlords require an income. • Smaller units seem to be getting some traction despite the market • Larger £50k + rent properties really struggle. It will be interesting to see how many landlords will engage but think it will be larger portfolio companies.
c) West End update	c) Matt Peachey	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Update: Supplementary planning document for west end due • Oxford Station masterplan-team have background in station development and place making. Architecture will not be a focus of the masterplan, but rather a follow up phase. Previous design competition included an archway design. • Q. Is Said Business school involved in promoters group? A. Yes
d) Inclusive Economy-	d) Clayton Lavallin	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Report update and next steps • Need to mobilise and push this forward • Twin track approach-Commission (long-term commitment) but also T&F Group (early actions)

Report and Commission		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The aim is to develop a Coalition of willing, committed partners • Timely and pressing, with current economic challenges, Social Value act, need to lower the activation value <p>ACTION: Clayton to meet with Stuart W. Need to push forward T&F Group</p>
e) Workspace Project update	e) Matt Peachey	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strategic need for evolved space for new start-ups coming online. Risk we lose these start-ups as lack of grow on space • UKSPA - https://www.ukspa.org.uk/members-area/ukspa-webinars/ • Capital in the local market is keeping people here but space at Harwell, Milton Park etc. will be a draw away from Oxford • A target group of millennials want to be based in the City of Oxford • Carolyn noted that Clarendon Centre redevelopment is launching for consultation today, to boost residential, lab and office supply. • Susan highlighted the 15 minute city model with all amenities close to home-bringing accommodation and work places closer together is part of this. Aspiration will transform the city. • Peter N suggested Clarendon site could be an excellent demonstrator for living lab, and one government might invest in.
4. Economic Recovery Plan Update (City & county-wide)	Ahmed Goga, Matt Peachey	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Westgate ‘buzzy’ but Broad St / Cornmarket struggling.....reflecting reduction in tourism, significant impact on areas like Broad Street. • Having students back will help recovery and footfall. More required to promote Oxford as an tourist destination to local and regional audiences. • Tourism previously put a lot of pressure on the city, coach arrivals with low spend and environmental impact. • Discussion about independents, which could be encouraged through better estate mgt.
5. Economic Development Strategy Update City Centre Vision & Action Plan	Matt Peachey, Clayton Lavallin	See Slidedeck for update summaries

<p>6. End of Brexit Transition Period</p>	<p>Chair: Peter Nolan</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Communication plan will be put in place by the local authorities • Concerns about effect on our roads due to additional lorries on the road and impact on local business such as BMW who can't operate on JIT basis • Deal or No Deal uncertain • Potential drug shortages could be a major health care problem, a concern previously and so NHS may be unable due to COVID to prepare adequately. • University of Oxford No. 1 recipient of EU funding and future relationship with major funding regimes is still uncertain. • County called on to make provision for lorry parks, public health issue, • Contingency planning required for disruption. City looked at its own land holdings also. • County and Districts have prepared a Communications plan, briefing on travel for example • Oxfordshire, large international workforce requires planning. University an example on dependence on EU Research funding and international workforce. Will affect staffing and students. Companies also. • OUH has just got some govt money for more international nursing recruitment on the plus side.
<p>7. AOB</p>	<p>Chair: Peter Nolan</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Peter, Invitation to consider the implications of the devolution white paper? • Potential threat to 'democratic voice' of Oxford if Oxford-Cambridge Arc shuts out Oxford and City Councils. • A more place based approach being favoured currently, likely the White Paper will be realised in Summer 2021 (post-Elections)
<p>8. Next Meeting Dates</p>	<p>Chair: Peter Nolan</p>	<p>Suggested 2021 Dates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tuesday 12th January, 10-12pm • Tuesday 13th April, 10-12pm • Tuesday 13th July, 10-12pm • Tuesday 12th October, 10-12pm <p>ACTION: Clayton to send out invitations for all 2021 dates in advance.</p>