

LEP Transition

SWLEP Board, 20 July 2023



Background

March 2023 budget the government stated that it was:

- ‘minded to withdraw central government support for LEPs from April 2024’ and that LEP functions should be transferred to local authorities
- Government questionnaire LEPs and local authorities Apr-May
- Follow-up statement on 19 July – delayed, expected 20 July

Core Functions

LEPs perform three core functions in return for core funding from government:

- a. embed a strong, independent and diverse local business voice into the local decision-making fora they are party to;
- b. develop local economic strategies and maintain business and economic intelligence for their areas; and;
- c. deliver functions on behalf of government departments, shaped by the local business voice where relevant.

Working Groups

Working Group with Swindon Borough Council and Wiltshire Council officers established, regular meetings from Sept 2023

Board Director volunteers for a small Board Working Group requested to oversee the process and report back to the Board on progress.