



**Membership**

| <b>Name of Member</b>  | <b>Organisation</b>                        | <b>Attendance</b> |
|--|--|-------------------|
| David Andrews (DA)   | VisitWiltshire                             | Apologies         |
| Anita Bellinger (AB)   | InSwindon                                  |                   |
| Daniel Rhind-Tutt (DR-T)                                       | Salisbury & District Chamber               |                   |
| Layla Burrows (LB)   | Innovate UK                                | ✓                 |
| Sally Cook (SC)  | DWP  |                   |
| Kathryn Crosweller (KC)  | Chippenham Chamber                         |                   |
| Jim Davison (JD)   | MakeUK                                     |                   |
| Mark Edwards (ME)  | Calne Town Council                         |                   |
| Lorna Howarth (LH)   | KTN Innovate UK                            |                   |
| Emily Manser (EM) / Jenna Hunt (JH)                            | Cities & Local Growth Unit Representatives | Apologies         |
| Ruth Lambert (RL)  | Federation of Small Business, FSB          | ✓                 |
| Awaiting replacement   | DIT  |                   |
| Robin McGowan (RMcG)   | Salisbury BID                              | Apologies         |
| Tim Major (TM)   | Thames Valley Chamber                      | ✓                 |
| Elliott Hutt (EH)  | CLA  |                   |
| Phil Mills (PM) / David Purcell (DP)                           | SWMAS                                      | Apologies         |
| Paul O'Collins (PO)  | Innovate UK Edge (previously EEN)          |                   |
| Mandy Paterson (MP) OR Rob Perks                               | Inspire by Wessex Chamber                  | ✓                 |
| Ben Pidgeon (BP)   | Trowbridge Chamber                         |                   |
| Dee Temple-Multon (DT-M)<br>OR Ian Larrard                     | BusinessWest                               | Apologies         |
| Beverley Waters (BW)   | ICAEW                                      | Apologies         |
| Katie Davis (KD)   | NFU  | Apologies         |
| <b>SWLEP: attendance will be dependent on topics discussed</b> |  |                   |

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|  <b>Swindon &amp; Wiltshire</b><br>LOCAL ENTERPRISE PARTNERSHIP | <b>Minutes of Business Intelligence<br/>&amp; Networking Group Meeting<br/>(BING)<br/>7 December 2022</b> |
|--|---|

|  |                                  |           |
|--|----------------------------------|-----------|
| Paddy Bradley (PB)   | SWLEP CEO                        | ✓         |
| Laura Hutchings (LH)   | SWLEP                            | ✓         |
| Alison North (AN)  | SWLEP Director and Chair of BING | Apologies |
| Amanda Peach (AP) / Laura Arlott (LA)  | SWLEP                            | ✓✓        |
| Debby Skellern (DS)  | SWLEP                            | ✓         |
| Chris Stevens (CS)   | SWLEP                            | ✓         |
| Brea Woods (BW)  | SWLEP                            | ✓         |
| <b>Swindon Borough Council: attendance will be dependent on topics discussed</b> |                                  |           |
|  | Swindon Borough Council          |           |
| <b>Wiltshire Council: attendance will be dependent on topics discussed</b>       |                                  |           |
| Rory Bowen (RB)  | Wiltshire Council                | Apologies |
| Rachel Finlay (RFi)  |                                  | ✓         |
| Russell Frith (RF)   |                                  | ✓ partial |
| Victoria Moloney (VM)  |                                  |           |
| David Perrett (DP)   |                                  |           |
| Mandy Timbrell (MT)  |                                  | Apologies |

|                    |                                   |
|--------------------|-----------------------------------|
| <b>Guest(s)</b>    | Matt Tudge (MTu), Business West ✓ |
| <b>Chair</b>       | Paddy Bradley (PB)                |
| <b>Minutes</b>     | Deborah House (DKH)               |
| <b>Venue</b>       | Via video / teleconference call   |
| <b>Start time</b>  | 12.30pm                           |
| <b>Finish Time</b> | 2pm                               |

| <b>I.0</b> | <b>Welcome and Introductions</b>   | <b>Date</b> |
|------------|--|-------------|
|            | The meeting opened at 12.31pm. PB welcomed attendees to the meeting and apologies were noted. He explained that he would be chairing the meeting today as Alison North was unable to attend. |             |



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| <b>2.0</b> | <b>Minutes of meeting on 13 September 2022 and matters arising</b>  |  |
|            | <p>The minutes of the meeting held on 13 September 2022 were read and approved.</p> <p><b>Matter Arising:</b></p> <p>The Matter Arising was completed.</p>  |  |
| <b>3.0</b> | <b>Innovate UK Launchpad competition</b>  |  |
|            | <p>LB outlined Innovate UK's Launchpad competition which was part of the delivery programme for place-based innovation support and reinforced the government's Levelling Up White Paper which was published in February. There would be two rounds of competitions supporting more sectors/clusters under the Strength in Places banner.</p> <p>The Innovation Accelerator programme had £100m funding across three city regions. Successful Innovation Accelerators would be announced in April, which would be dependent on the politically led agenda. There was also £100m budget for ten Cluster Launchpads. The window for the Expressions of Interest for the Launchpads closed in November with the decision on which cluster to form being decided by the applicants for the benefit of their area. 43 Expressions of Interest had been submitted and Innovate UK was looking at the next steps. Innovate UK would assemble a small internal panel in January 2023 to review the Expressions of Interest submitted by the November deadline. The panel would decide which Eols to take forward for discussion up until April 2023, after which it would be decided which Launchpads would be agreed for operation.</p> <p>PB explained SWLEP's involvement in an Expression of Interest for one of these Launchpads. SWLEP co-ordinated a group involving Cynam, the Bristol and Bath Cyber Cluster, the University of Bath, Plexal and the Western Gateway. The aim of the Launchpad was to grow the expertise of the cyber cluster which would in turn increase the resilience and survivability of the area and promote collaborative research and development. SWLEP would continue to update attendees on its progress for this programme.</p> <p>Innovate UK's Digital Teams would continue to look at the portfolio of projects within the Expressions of Interest as these could be a ready-made programme for its sector teams.</p> |  |
| <b>4.0</b> | <b>Swindon and Wiltshire Cyber Cluster</b>  |  |
|            | <p>Brea Woods, SWLEP's Project Manager – Cyber Networks, presented to the meeting outlining the work of the Cyber Cluster. The presentation can be accessed by following the link below:</p> <p><a href="https://static.swlep.co.uk/swlep/docs/default-source/sub-groups/business-development/brog/2022/07-dec/swcc-powerpoint---bing.pdf?sfvrsn=f999033e_4">https://static.swlep.co.uk/swlep/docs/default-source/sub-groups/business-development/brog/2022/07-dec/swcc-powerpoint---bing.pdf?sfvrsn=f999033e_4</a></p> <p><b>Swindon and Wiltshire Cyber Cluster (Slides 2-8)</b></p>  |  |



BW explained the role of the Cyber Cluster and the difference between cyber members (those businesses involved in the cyber sector) and business members (those businesses involved in web design, IT etc) to the cluster. However, the cyber cluster events were open to any business, as all businesses could be affected by cyber-attacks regardless of their sectors. SMEs needed to understand more about the threat posed to their businesses and the cluster's aim was to inform and educate.

The Cluster was free for businesses to join, and it was looking for sponsorship and partnership opportunities so this would continue. The Cluster currently meets every two months with face-to-face and online options but was looking to increase frequency. From January, the Newsletter would be produced monthly.

**Cyber ICE Conference (Slides 9-12)**

BW advised the meeting of the Cyber ICE Conference taking place at the Business Cyber Centre (BCC) on 10 May 2023, a year on from the BCC's official opening. Zones in the BCC would be under the banners of Innovation, Collaboration and Education (ICE). SWLEP was thrilled to announce that the Defence Science & Technology Laboratory (Dstl) would be bringing an Enigma machine to the conference.

**Women in Cyber Circle (Slides 14-21)**

BW outlined the role of the Women in Cyber Circle and the recent successful meeting held at the Business Cyber Centre, which was well-attended. The gender imbalance within the cyber sector had been recognised and several large organisations had already approached to offer their support. The Women in Cyber Circle was free to join, and it was looking for sponsorship. The Circle was hoping to be the national hub for England, and work with those in Scotland, Wales, and Ireland.

**5.0 Skills update**

**Local Skills Improvement Plan (LSIP)**

Matt Tudge of Business West presented to the meeting and outlined the process for the Local Skills Improvement Plan (LSIP) for the Swindon and Wiltshire area, detailing the sectors for focus and the cross-cutting themes. A series of information sessions and workshops had been arranged to garner information from stakeholders and businesses to provide the evidence base for the report. The presentation can be accessed by following the link below:

[https://static.swlep.co.uk/swlep/docs/default-source/sub-groups/business-development/brog/2022/07-dec/s-w-lsip-presentation-071222.pdf?sfvrsn=f093aa2c\\_4](https://static.swlep.co.uk/swlep/docs/default-source/sub-groups/business-development/brog/2022/07-dec/s-w-lsip-presentation-071222.pdf?sfvrsn=f093aa2c_4)

The request was made for the information about events to be passed to membership of the Business Representative Organisations present in order to spread the details as far as possible and attract attendees from the business



community to give their thoughts on skills needs. The Growth Hub offered to assist in connecting to businesses so that they could input their contributions.

**Action: BusinessWest to make the College Employer Partners' survey available to other BROs for their use.**

**Dec  
2022**

The question was raised as to why Automotive was cited as the unique sector for Swindon and Wiltshire with Honda having closed and whether Business West would be repurposing its approach as a result. Business West advised that it had used a SWLEP automotive report to contact the supply chain and would ascertain how that sector might change across the region and how this would impact on skills provision in the area. SWLEP was in the process of updating its Local Economic Assessment, so these figures could then feed into Business West's research.

The LSIP Report would show which sectors were the most significant to pursue.

#### **Apprenticeship Strategy 2022/2023**

AP spoke to the meeting and outlined the progress of SWLEP's apprenticeship strategy with a target of 50 new businesses taking on apprentices:

- SWLEP's Skills Advisors were holding ongoing discussions with 30 businesses;
- 10 apprentices had started with their employers with another 21 in the pipeline at different stages of recruitment;
- a further two businesses had joined the last Coffee & Chat session;
- the Growth Hub was extending these sessions into 2023 as they had been so successful;
- other Growth Hubs had also decided to implement Coffee & Chat sessions into their areas as they had seen the success within Swindon and Wiltshire; and
- the next session was scheduled for 26 January.

#### **Computer Coding Challenge (Raspberry Pi) 2023**

LA spoke to the meeting and outlined the Computer Coding Challenge.

- PB and LA recently attended the Raspberry Pi Awards led by PA Consulting encouraging groups of school students to improve STEM skills by programming the device along an environmental theme;
- SWLEP wanted to encourage more of Swindon and Wiltshire schools, particularly the state schools, to participate;
- as there was a shortage of Raspberry Pis, SWLEP had decided to establish its own awards using micro:bits;
- SWLEP was teaming up with Enthuse Partnerships for this project;
- schools were under pressure with resourcing and funding, so a whole package of resources had been produced which included CPD credits for teachers, and packs detailing how to create computer clubs to help;
- the Institute of Technology was one of the strategic partners, and T-level students would be going into schools to explain the challenge and work with the students;



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|            | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>there was now a registration link to the challenge which went out to schools in the Careers Hub Newsletter on 2 December. Information would also be sent to school governors; and</li> <li>two schools had come to SWLEP direct whilst three had expressed their interest via the link.</li> </ul>  |  |
| <b>6.0</b> | <b>Hydrogen and the Western Gateway</b>  |  |
|            | <p>DS presented to the meeting on the Hydrogen project and its place within the Western Gateway outlining the assets within the area, showing a short demonstration of an interactive map, explaining the different colour coding used for hydrogen reflecting its method of production as well as advising of the overall aims and direction of the project. The presentation can be accessed by following the link below.</p> <p><a href="https://static.swlep.co.uk/swlep/docs/default-source/sub-groups/business-development/brog/2022/07-dec/for-circulation-western-gateway-hydrogen-071222.pdf?sfvrsn=c1d0366e_4">https://static.swlep.co.uk/swlep/docs/default-source/sub-groups/business-development/brog/2022/07-dec/for-circulation-western-gateway-hydrogen-071222.pdf?sfvrsn=c1d0366e_4</a></p> |  |
| <b>7.0</b> | <b>AOB and Items proposed for future meetings</b>  |  |
|            | <p>Attendees were thanked for their contributions to the debate for the items.</p> <p>UK Shared Prosperity Fund</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Overview of the investment plan from Wiltshire Council</li> <li>Overview of the investment plan from Swindon Borough council</li> <li>Experience Salisbury</li> <li>Institute of Technology update</li> <li>Structure of Tourism support from Government</li> </ul> <p>All presenters were thanked for their contributions to the discussions.</p>  |  |
|            | <b>Date and time of next meeting</b>   |  |
|            | <p><b>Next meeting</b><br/>Tuesday, 28 February - 12.30pm to 2pm</p> <p><b>Proposed dates for 2023:</b><br/>Wednesday, 14 June - 12.30pm to 2pm<br/>Thursday, 21 September - 12.30pm to 2pm<br/>Wednesday, 6 December - 12.30pm to 2pm</p>   |  |
|            | <b>Meeting closed at 1.59pm</b>  |  |

*Alison North*

2 March 2023