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**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE  
COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP AND PARTNERSHIPS COMMITTEE  
HELD ON 23 JUNE 2014 AT 7.33 P.M. IN THE COUNCIL OFFICES, WEELEY**

**Present:** Councillors D Miles (Chairman), M Patten (Vice-Chairman), C Amos, C Callender, J Hawkins, T Howard, D Oxley and A Pugh

**In Attendance:** Democratic Services Manager (Colin Sweeney), Regeneration Manager (Tom Gardiner) and Democratic Services Officer (Janey Nice)

**9. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND SUBSTITUTIONS**

An apology for absence was received on behalf of Councillor I Tracey, with Councillor D Oxley substituting.

**10. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING**

The minutes of the last meeting of the Committee, held on 12 May 2014, were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

**11. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were none.

**12. REGENERATION AND THE LOCAL ENTERPRISE PARTNERSHIP (LEP)**

The Chairman welcomed the Council's Regeneration Manager (Tom Gardiner) who had come along to speak on regeneration and the Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP), with emphasis on the South East Local Enterprise Partnership (SELEP).

In taking Members through the report, Mr Gardiner explained how the LEP's had been set up after the General Election of 2010, with the SELEP being established to determine strategic economic priorities in South East England. Mr Gardiner said that the SELEP's main remit was to drive growth and create local jobs.

Mr Gardiner's report had said that the SELEP area had within its borders, eight ports and high speed rail links, together with national and regional airport capacity and that it was a significant economic gateway, which provided the strategic route between mainland Europe, London and the rest of the UK.

Mr Gardiner informed the Committee that the Government would shortly be informing the SELEP about its funding allocation for the period from 2015 to 2020 and added that it now seemed unlikely that there would be any substantive negotiation over the SELEP's allocation. This was mainly due to time constraints within central Government but also linked to the fact that the national funding pot for LEPs had been over-subscribed as part of the national growth deal and bidding process.

Mr Gardiner advised the Committee that 70% of the SELEP's allocation would be derived from Department for Transport resources and so a commensurate proportion of the SELEP's allocated funding would be targeted on strategic and local transport infrastructure.

In conclusion, Mr Gardiner said that the A.120 had been identified as a growth corridor within the SELEP's Strategic Economic Plan and that the Harwich Ports and Stansted had been identified as significant economic drivers within the Haven Gateway sub-region.

The Chairman referred to a set of questions that Councillor Hawkins had prepared and asked whether Members had any comments or questions for Mr Gardiner before considering these.

Councillor Hawkins said that he would have preferred to have asked his questions to a representative from the LEP and that he would do so at a future meeting of the Committee. Councillor Hawkins did, however, ask questions in relation to:

- (a) Jobs growth and housing; and
- (b) Whether Tendring would have been better off in a different LEP as the SELEP was so large.

During discussions, the Committee was informed that the SELEP had supported Tendring's bid to be designated as one of the UK's Assisted Areas and was also supporting the District's request for Harwich and Brightlingsea to be designated as Centres of Offshore Renewable Engineering (CORE) locations. Mr Gardiner reported that projects in Tendring had been included within the SELEP's proposed project pipeline, but that more work was required locally to inform the viability and deliverability of those schemes. Mr Gardiner made reference to the opportunities afforded to Harwich and Brightlingsea via the offshore renewables sector and emphasised the need to secure Offshore and Marine services as well as manufacturing, fabrication and assembly if the District was to secure long-term sustainable jobs in this sector.

Further discussions highlighted that:

- The need of bringing people with the right skills to Tendring;
- An important issue was key skills with the right training;
- There were difficulties in forward planning in not knowing what level of funding would be received from the Government;
- Too much emphasis was being placed on Wind farms at Harwich to the detriment of the rest of the District, however Mr Gardiner countered that perception;
- There was a need for a Tendring representative on the SELEP board; and
- There was a requirement for a representative from SELEP to attend a special meeting of the Committee

Accordingly, it was **RECOMMENDED TO CABINET** and agreed unanimously that:

- (a) Cabinet looks at having a representative from the Tendring District on the SELEP Board;
- (b) Tendring required targets developed as to what it wanted from SELEP; and
- (c) As the Council needed a team to put the projects together to be ready to present to SELEP, Cabinet consider whether resources were sufficient to carry this out.

The Chairman thanked Mr Gardiner for his report and explanation of the SELEP.

### **13. ANY OTHER ITEMS WHICH THE CHAIRMAN DECIDES ARE URGENT**

There were none.

### **14. CHAIRMAN'S CLOSING REMARKS**

The Chairman asked Members of the Committee if they supported the idea of a Committee Member working on a specific subject as Councillor Hawkins had done so in relation to this evening's meeting. The Committee agreed that this had been an excellent approach and should be continued wherever possible.

The Chairman thanked Councillor Hawkins for the work he had put into the subject.

The meeting was declared closed at 9.22

Chairman