

**MINUTES of the meeting of Marches Enterprise Joint Committee held at Craven Arms Community Centre, Newington Way, Craven Arms, Shropshire SY7 9PS on Tuesday 11 October 2016 at 9.30 am**

**Present:** Councillor AW Johnson (Chairman)

**Councillors:** Councillor A England and Councillor C Motley

**Officers:** Jacqui Casey (Marches LEP Partnership Manager), Claire Cox (Business Relationship Manager for Economic Growth, Shropshire Council), Kathy Mulholland (Inward Investment and Business Support Delivery Manager, Telford and Wrekin Council), Claire Ward (Solicitor to Herefordshire Council and Monitoring Officer)

**16. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies were received from Councillor M Pate, Councillor S Davies and Mr G Wynn OBE.

**17. NAMED SUBSTITUTES (IF ANY)**

Councillor C Motley substituted for Councillor M Pate.  
Councillor A England substituted for Councillor S Davies.

**18. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

**19. MINUTES**

**Resolved:**

**That the Minutes of the meeting held on 20 July 2016 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.**

**20. LOCAL ENTERPRISE PARTNERSHIP (LEP) SCHEME OF DELEGATION**

The Committee considered a report setting out the proposed LEP scheme of delegation which was intended to be included as part of the LEP accountability and assurance framework and made available on the LEP website.

The Committee heard that the scheme, if approved, would allow the LEP director, an employee of Shropshire Council, to take certain decisions subject to consultation with

the Accountable Body S151 Finance Officer, the LEP Board and the Leaders of the three Partner Authorities.

The requirement to consult ensures that decisions taken take account of the priorities of all of the Partner Authorities without the need to assemble the Joint Committee for every decision. It was felt that this would enable the LEP to meet government expectations on streamlined, timely decision making and allow the LEP to respond more quickly to opportunities which are often very time limited.

The Committee noted that it was important for each Partner Authority to have a clear and common understanding of what the scheme of delegation meant and how it would operate. A guidance note will be prepared, detailing the legal requirements for access to information when the director makes decisions under the scheme, to ensure compliance.

It was agreed that appendix 2, item 5c be reworded to 'government or other relevant partners'.

It was agreed that a correction be made to appendix 1 that all references to 'urgent decision or one which cannot be reasonably deferred' be amended to read 'urgent decision **and** one which cannot be reasonably deferred'.

**Resolved:**

**That subject to the two amendments noted above the schemes of delegation in appendix 1 and 2 be approved.**

The meeting ended at 9.44 am

**CHAIRMAN**