

Swansea Bay City Region Joint Committee - 14 October 2021

Review of Chair of the Economic Strategy Board

Purpose:	To seek approval from Joint Committee for the nominations for Chair and Vice Chair of Economic Strategy Board
Policy Framework:	Swansea Bay City Deal (SBCD) Joint Committee Agreement (JCA)
Recommendation(s):	It is recommended that Joint Committee
1)	Approves the appointment of Chair and Vice Chair of the Economic Strategy Board as per the attached report
Report Author:	Peter Austin (SBCD Business Engagement Manager)
Finance Officer:	Chris Moore (SBCD S151 Officer)
Legal Officer:	Tracey Meredith (SBCD Monitoring Officer)

1. Background

- 1.1 At its meeting on 10th September 2020 Joint Committee agreed to the then Chair of the Economic Strategy Board (ESB), Mr Ed Tomp, taking a 6-month sabbatical from the role due to work commitments. This arrangement was subject to review after 6 months or at a suitable time thereafter.
- 1.2 The Joint Committee also approved the appointment of Chris Foxall as Chair of the ESB and Amanda Davies as the Vice Chair at its meeting on the 10th September 2020. Such appointments to be reviewed after 6 months or at such time as necessary.
- 1.3 Mr Tomp has now submitted a letter of resignation from the position of Chair of ESB, noting that he wishes to remain a member of the Board as time allows in the future.

- 1.4 Therefore there is a requirement to report back to Joint Committee as to the appointment of a Chair and Vice Chair of the ESB.
- 1.5 Members of the ESB have undertaken a nomination exercise (electronically) for the position of Chair and Vice Chair.
- a) Members have unanimously nominated Mr Chris Foxall to become the permanent Chair (as opposed to interim).
 - b) Members have also unanimously nominated Ms Amanda Davies to remain as Vice-Chair.
 - c) Members also gave their support for Mr Tomp to remain as a Board member
- 1.6 Both Mr Foxall and Ms Davies have agreed to undertake these roles subject to approval of Joint Committee and both governments.
- 1.7 The new arrangements have been agreed by UK Government and Welsh Government.

2. Financial Implications

- 2.1 There are no financial implications associated with this report.

3. Legal Implications

- 3.1 The Joint Committee Agreement provides at 4.1 Membership that the Chair shall be appointed following nominations by the unanimous agreement of: the Welsh Government, the UK Government and the Joint Committee.

4. Alignment to the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015

- 4.1 The SBCD Portfolio and its constituent projects are closely aligned to the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 and the seven well-being goals for Wales. These alignments are outlined in a Portfolio Business Case for the SBCD, as well as in individual project business cases.

Background Papers: None

Appendices: Appendix A: Economic Strategy Board Terms of Reference