



Swansea Bay City Region Joint Committee – 10 September 2020

Economic Strategy Board Chair and Vice-Chair

Purpose:	To inform Joint Committee of a temporary change of Chairperson and the appointment of a Vice-Chair for the Economic Strategy Board (ESB)
Policy Framework:	Swansea Bay City Deal JCA (Joint Committee Agreement)
Consultation:	ESB Members, Chair of Joint Committee and Chair of Programme Board
Recommendation(s):	It is recommended that Joint Committee: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Approves the appointment of Mr Chris Foxall as Chair of the ESB for a period of up to 6 months; 2) Approves the appointment of Ms Amanda Davies as Vice-Chair of the ESB for a period of up to 6 months; 3) Reviews both appointments after 6 months or at such time as necessary.
Report Author:	Jonathan Burnes (SBCD Programme Director)
Finance Officer:	Chris Moore (SBCD Section 151 Officer)
Legal Officer:	Tracey Meredith (SBCD Monitoring Officer)
Access to Services Officer:	

1. Introduction

1.1 In July 2020 the Chair of the Economic Strategy Board (ESB), Mr Ed Tomp, advised the Chair of Joint Committee that he wished to stand down as Chair of the ESB. Mr Tomp explained that increased work commitments were preventing him from effectively contributing to the work of the ESB.

2. Background

2.1 Following notification of that decision an extraordinary meeting of the ESB was called on the 3rd August 2020 to discuss future arrangements.



- 2.2 The meeting was attended by the Chair of Joint Committee, the Chair of Programme Board, all but one of the ESB members and both ESB special advisors. Apologies were received from Ms Amanda Davies of Pobl Group.
- 2.3 Following a discussion about arrangements and acknowledging the value of Mr Tomp's contribution as Chair, it was agreed that Mr Tomp be granted a sabbatical period of up to six months - following which the situation would be reviewed.
- 2.4 It was agreed with the Chair of Joint Committee that a temporary Chairperson should be appointed to the ESB until such time as a more permanent decision could be made.
- 2.5 ESB members nominated Mr Chris Foxall to be the temporary Chair. Mr Foxall has confirmed that he is willing to undertake this role.
- 2.6 ESB members also discussed the need for a Vice-Chair to support the ESB Chair. Members had discussed this previously and Ms Amanda Davies had expressed interest in the position.
- 2.7 Members nominated Ms Amanda Davies for the position of Vice Chair, which she has subsequently confirmed she is willing to accept.

3. Financial Implications

- 3.1 None

4. Legal Implications

- 4.1 The Joint Committee Agreement provides that the Chair of the ESB shall be appointed following nominations by the unanimous agreement of the Welsh Government, the UK Government and the Joint Committee. Therefore should the Joint Committee agree to the recommendations set out in this report the appointments will need to be approved by both Welsh and UK Governments.
- 4.2 The Joint Committee Agreement also provides that the Chair shall be a private sector representative or other suitable representative, that the Chair shall be accountable to the Joint Committee and that the Chair should be reviewed annually.

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

- 5.1 The Swansea Bay City Deal programme 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 - Excerpt from Joint Committee Agreement (Schedule 6) concerning the ESB

Appendix A

Excerpt from JCA regarding ESB

Schedule 6 Economic Strategy Board

1 Purpose

- 1.1 To provide strategic direction for the Swansea Bay City Deal and provide strategic advice to the Joint Committee on matters relating to the Swansea Bay City Region. Specifically, the ESB shall:
- (a) Submit strategic objectives for the Swansea Bay City Region.
 - (b) Monitor progress with regard to the delivery of the Swansea Bay City Deal in accordance with diagram B in Schedule 8.
 - (c) Have oversight of business case production
 - (d) Consider regional added value and identify opportunities for investment.
 - (e) Make recommendations to the Joint Committee.
 - (f) Produce a summary report of issues considered by the Economic Strategy Board to be annexed to the submission of any business cases

2 Reporting

- 2.1 Joint Committee

3 Membership

- 3.1 Members shall be appointed through an open recruitment and nomination process. Members including co-opted members of the Joint Committee shall submit proposals to the Joint Committee for the recruitment and nomination process. Those proposals shall be subject to unanimous agreement by members of the Joint Committee and the Welsh Government and the UK Government. Members shall include:
- (a) 1 private sector chair or other suitable representative.
 - (b) 5 private sector representatives.
- 3.2 For the avoidance of doubt the Joint Committee may appoint additional co-opted members should the Joint Committee determine appropriate
- 3.3 The SBCD Programme Director, head of paid service, monitoring officer and s151 officer of each of the Councils or their nominated representative shall be entitled to attend meetings of the Economic Strategy Board as an adviser or an observer but shall not have a vote.

4 Chair

- 4.1 The Chair shall be appointed following nominations by the unanimous agreement of the Welsh Government, the UK Government and the Joint Committee.
- 4.2 The Chair shall be a private sector representative or other suitable representative.
- 4.3 The Chair shall be accountable to the Joint Committee.
- 4.4 The Chair shall be reviewed annually.

5 Voting/Agreement

- 5.1 The Economic Strategy Board shall not have any formal decision-making powers.
- 5.2 The Economic Strategy Board shall reach agreement by consensus.
- 5.3 Where alternative views and opinions are expressed these shall be recorded and included in any reporting process.

6 Conflicts of Interest

- 6.1 To allow the Economic Strategy Board to undertake all its functions a clear distinction shall be drawn between those involved in specific scheme development and those preparing recommendations on those schemes to the Joint Committee. A robust system of declaration of conflict of interest shall be put in place.
- 6.2 Occasions shall arise where conflicts of interest preclude specific named officers, individuals, committee members from taking part in discussions which shall form views and recommendations on specific matters. Members have an obligation to declare any such interests which shall then be recorded.
- 6.3 Co-opted members of the Economic Strategy Board shall be subject to the rules of conduct set out at Schedule 13 and shall sign an undertaking in the form set out at Schedule 13 to confirm that they will abide by those rules of conduct.

7 Proceedings of meetings

- 7.1 The Portfolio Management Office shall arrange for minutes of the proceedings of each meeting to be taken, approved and recorded.

8 Quorum

- 8.1 For the Economic Strategy Board to agree and submit recommendations, membership must be represented up to a quorate equivalent to 50% of the membership of the Economic Strategy Board.
- 8.2 The Economic Strategy Board shall meet with the following frequency or as and when required:

- (a) Quarterly in advance of any Joint Committee meeting; and
- (b) When necessary to deal with business as agreed by the Chair of the Economic Strategy Board.

9 Allowances

9.1 There shall be no allowances paid.

10 Servicing

10.1 The Portfolio Management Office shall organise appropriate servicing for the meetings.

11 Sub-groups

11.1 Thematic sub-committees may be established as and when required and shall report to the Economic Strategy Board.

12 Review

To be reviewed annually