

Cheshire and Warrington Joint Committee

Agenda

Date: Friday, 27th September, 2024
Time: 11.00 am
Venue: Committee Suite 1,2 & 3, Westfields, Middlewich Road,
Sandbach CW11 1HZ

The agenda is divided into 2 parts. Part 1 is taken in the presence of the public and press. Part 2 items will be considered in the absence of the public and press for the reasons indicated on the agenda and at the foot of each report.

It should be noted that Part 1 items of Cheshire East Council decision making meetings are audio recorded and the recordings will be uploaded to the Council's website

PART 1 – MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED WITH THE PUBLIC AND PRESS PRESENT

1. **Apologies for Absence**

To receive any apologies for absence from Members.

2. **Declarations of Interest**

To provide an opportunity for Members and Officers to declare any disclosable pecuniary, other registerable interests, and non-registerable interests in any item on the agenda.

3. **Minutes of Previous Meeting** (Pages 3 - 6)

To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 26 July 2024 as a correct record.

For requests for further information

Contact: Sam Jones

Tel: 01270 686643

E-Mail: samuel.jones@cheshireeast.gov.uk with any apologies

4. **Public Speaking/Open Session**

In accordance with Cheshire East Council's Committee Procedural Rules and Appendix on public speaking, a total period of 15 minutes is allocated for members of the public to put questions to the Joint Committee on any matter relating to this agenda. Each member of the public will be allowed up to two minutes each to speak, and the Chair will have discretion to vary this where they consider it appropriate.

Members of the public wishing to ask a question at the meeting should provide at least three clear working days' notice in writing in advance of the meeting and should include the question with that notice. This will enable an informed answer to be given.

Part A - Shareholder Functions of the Committee

Part B - Other Functions of the Committee

5. **Appointment of Members to the Business Advisory Board (Pages 7 - 10)**

To receive a report to seeking Joint Committee approval for the appointment of the Chair and final 10 members of the Joint Committee's Business Advisory Board.

6. **Joint Committee Forward Plan (Pages 11 - 16)**

To receive an update and seek direction on the Cheshire and Warrington Joint Committee Forward Plan.

Membership: Councillors L Gittins, H Mundry, N Mannion, M Gorman, J Henshaw and Shore

Minutes of a meeting of the **Cheshire and Warrington Joint Committee** held on Friday, 26th July, 2024 in the Council Chamber, Warrington Town Hall, Sankey Street, Warrington, WA1 1UH

PRESENT

Councillor Louise Gittins (Chair), Leader, Cheshire West and Chester Council
Councillor Nick Mannion (Vice-Chair), Leader, Cheshire East Council
Councillor Jean Flaherty, Deputy Leader, Warrington Borough Council
Councillor Michael Gorman, Deputy Leader, Cheshire East Council

OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE

Peter Skates, Acting Executive Director – Place, Cheshire East Council
Janet Witkowski, Legal Officer, Cheshire East Council
Sam Jones, Democratic Services Officer, Cheshire East Council
Delyth Curtis, Chief Executive Officer, Cheshire West and Chester Council
Gemma Davies, Director of Economy and Housing, Cheshire West and Chester Council
Steve Park, Growth Director, Warrington Borough Council
Philip Cox, Chief Executive, Enterprise Cheshire and Warrington
Peter Jones, Programme Director, Cheshire and Warrington Sub-Regional Programme

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Karen Shore, Cheshire West and Chester Council, and Councillor Hans Mundry, Warrington Borough Council.

Roundtable introductions were made, and Councillors Jean Flaherty, Warrington Borough Council, Nick Mannion, Cheshire East Council and Michael Gorman, Cheshire East Council were welcomed to the Joint Committee.

2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

3 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the meeting held on 8th April 2024 be approved as a correct record.

4 PUBLIC SPEAKING/OPEN SESSION

RESOLVED:

The public speaker procedure was noted.

There were no public speakers.

5 CHESHIRE & WARRINGTON JOINT COMMITTEE - MEMBERSHIP AND OTHER MATTERS REPORT

Members considered a report regarding the appointment of Members to the Cheshire and Warrington Joint Committee by the three Councils in Cheshire and to highlight some key operational and administrative requirements relating to the way in which the Committee would work in future.

RESOLVED (unanimously): That the Joint Committee

1. Note the appointment of Members to the Joint Committee by constituent Councils.

2. Note the resignation of Councillor Sam Corcoran from his role as Leader of Cheshire East Council and that his replacement is Councillor Nick Mannion as newly appointed Leader.

3. Note the position relating to the appointment of the Chair of the Business Advisory Board.

4. Note the Terms of Reference for the Joint Committee, approved by Constituent Councils.

5. Note the operational and administrative arrangements for the Joint Committee.

6. Note the proposed agenda items for the meeting of the Joint Committee in September 2024.

6 CHESHIRE AND WARRINGTON BUSINESS ADVISORY BOARD

Members considered a report seeking Joint Committee approval for the appointment of 10 of the proposed 15 to 20 members of the Joint Committee's Business Advisory Board.

RESOLVED (unanimously): That the Joint Committee

1. Confirm the appointment of the BAB members listed at Annex A:

- Trevor Brocklebank - Ex-Officio, Chair of Marketing Cheshire
- Chris Hindley - Former Local Enterprise Partnership Board Member

- Nichola Newton - Former Local Enterprise Partnership Board Member
- Peter Broxton - Former Local Enterprise Partnership Board Member
- Rupert Collis - Former Local Enterprise Partnership Board Member
- Ian Traynor - Business Representative Organisation Cheshire Business Group
- Terry Haywood - Business Representative Organisation North Cheshire Chamber
- Jane Hough - Business Representative Organisation Groundwork (for Cheshire & Warrington Business Improvement Districts)
- Helen Gbormittah - Business Representative Organisation North West Confederation of British Industry
- Jan Chillery - Business Representative Organisation Chester Business Club

7 FINANCE FOR THE SKILLS BOOTCAMP PROGRAMME

Members considered a report which sought approval from the Joint Committee for Enterprise Cheshire and Warrington to accept, spend and submit further bids for funding for the Skills Bootcamp Programme as set out in the business plan.

RESOLVED (unanimously): That the Joint Committee

1. Agree ECW should accept and spend further funding of around £5 million for our 2024/25 skills bootcamp programme if it is offered post-election or subsequently during this financial year.
2. Agree that the Chief Executive of ECW in consultation with the Chair of the Joint Committee and the sub-regional Growth Directors Board and with agreement of the Skills Bootcamp Steering Committee should prepare and submit a bid for the 2025/26 skills bootcamp programme.
3. Approve a variation in the ECW Business Plan to include the proposals to accept and spend £5 million for 2024/25 and the submission of a bid for 2025/26.
4. Give delegated authority for Enterprise Cheshire and Warrington to award Skills Bootcamp delivery contracts exceeding £100,000, subject to compliance with procurement and subsidy regulations, to the Chair of the sub-regional Growth Directors Board in consultation with the Chair of the Joint Committee; the Growth Directors from the two remaining Local Authorities; and the Monitoring Officer and S151 Officer from the Local Authority with lead accountable body status.

The meeting commenced at 11.00 am and concluded at 11.13 am

Councillor Louise Gittins (Chair), Leader, Cheshire West and Chester Council

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Schedule 1 of the Local Government Act 1972.

Cheshire and Warrington Joint Committee**27 September 2024****Appointment of Members to the Business
Advisory Board****Report of: Growth Directors****Report Reference No: CWJC/04/24-25**

Significant/Key Decision?	Yes/No	Definition (to be deleted once completed)
Cheshire West and Chester	No	Constitution Page 115.
Warrington	No	Constitution page 41
Cheshire East	No	Constitution Page 78

Purpose of Report

- 1 This report seeks Joint Committee approval for the appointment of the Chair and final 10 members of the Joint Committee's Business Advisory Board (BAB). The appointments are the remainder of the Business Advisory Board's members and have been identified via an open competition.

Executive Summary

- 2 At its meeting on 8 April 2024, the Joint Committee agreed the terms of reference of C&W's Business Advisory Board (BAB) and subsequently agreed the appointment of the first ten members of the BAB at its meeting on 26th July. The first ten members were made up of four members transferring from the former LEP Board, five members nominated by the sub-region's business representative organisations and the Chair of Marketing Cheshire

- 3 Alongside this, an open recruitment process has been underway to identify a nomination for Chair of the BAB and nine other members of the Board.
- 4 This paper seeks the Joint Committee's approval to appoint the Chair and the ten prospective members of the BAB identified via the open competition.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Joint Committee is recommended to:

1. Confirm the appointment of the BAB Chair and members listed at Appendix 1.

Report Detail

Open Competition

- 5 The Chair of the BAB is a key role, providing leadership and direction to the BAB and being the main link between the Board and the leaders of the local authorities as a non-voting member of the Joint Committee. The role also strengthens the representation of Cheshire and Warrington's business community with other local, regional and national stakeholders, for example by taking up membership of other relevant boards and roles previously filled by the Chair of the LEP.
- 6 The nominee for Chair of the BAB has been identified via an open competition run by Sherrington Associates (a recruitment consultancy based in Chester). It has been widely advertised with the final interview being undertaken by a panel comprising the Leader of Cheshire East Council, Growth Directors from Cheshire West and Warrington and the Chief Executive of ECW.
- 7 Members of the BAB provide their own expertise, knowledge and experience (as well as those of their networks) to enable the board to consider the economic needs of Cheshire and Warrington and advise leaders and officers on how to make Cheshire and Warrington the healthiest, most sustainable, inclusive and growing place in the country.
- 8 Nominations for members of the BAB were also identified via an open competition run by Sherrington Associates. The roles were widely advertised, culminating in a set of interviews with around 25 shortlisted candidates undertaken by a range of colleagues from across the three LAs and ECW

Comments from the Business Advisory Board

- 9 The attached nominations complete the BAB

Reasons for Recommendations

- 10 The nominations listed in Appendix 1 were generated via an open competitive process.

Other Options Considered

- 11 The process agreed by the Joint Committee has been followed in order to generate the nominations to the BAB and therefore no other options were considered

Other Consultation and Engagement

- 12 A wide range of stakeholders were consulted in the preparation of proposals for the BAB and documented in previous papers to the Joint Committee, leading up to the approval of the BAB Terms of Reference at the Joint Committee meeting on 8 April 2024

Implications and Comments

Legal implications

- 13 None. The BAB is an advisory board.

Finance implications

- 14 None – any costs associated with the BAB are already incorporated into the budget of ECW.

Sustainable, inclusive, healthy & growing economy and climate implications

- 15 BAB members will advise the Joint Committee on how to achieve Cheshire and Warrington’s objective of becoming the most sustainable, inclusive, healthy and growing economy in the UK. Building on the report from the Sustainable and Inclusive Growth Commission it will also provide the Joint Committee with its thoughts on C&W’s response to climate change

Risk Management

- 16 No implications

Equality, Diversity and Inclusion

- 17 The proposed nominations to the BAB are designed to produce a BAB which is fully representative of the whole of the C&W business community.

Access to Information	
Contact Officer:	Paul Chapman, ECW Paul.Chapman@cheshireandwarrington.com
Appendices:	Appendix 1: List of proposed appointments to the BAB
Background Papers:	None

OPEN

**PROPOSED NOMINATIONS FOR MEMBERSHIP OF THE C&W BUSINESS
ADVISORY BOARD**

Chair

Steve Purdham Chair of Board, Westfield Health

Members

Jill Jones, Non-Exec Chester Race Company Limited

Gaurav Batra, Non-Executive Chair Think Energy Group (Think Hire); Chair
Bolesworth Estate

Helen Tonks, Founder & Director Hydraulics Online Ltd

Maggie Chen, Co-founder Girls in Charge Initiative

Adrian Curry, Executive Director and Chief Decarbonisation Officer EET Fuels

Yannis Locopoulis, CEO Tristone Capital Ltd

Andrea Stott, Non-Exec Director Chain and Conveyor Ltd

Annabel Turpin, Chief Executive Storyhouse

Annette McDonald, Director of Sustainability & Partnerships Tatton Estates

Paul Taylor Director, Taylor Estates (Cheshire) Limited

JOINT COMMITTEE FORWARD PLAN 2024/25
Version 27th September 2024

PART A/B	Joint Committee (Dates tbc)	Venue	Title (draft where not complete)	Purpose of Report	Member Lead	Officer Lead	NOTES	
A	08/04/24	CEC	Report to set-up ECW (title TBC)	Complete all outstanding matters for Council-owned company set-up.		ECW/CEC (Ian Brooks/Deborah Upton)		
A			Report to agree the 2024/5 ECW (and Marketing Cheshire) Business Plan	Shareholder agreement to Business Plan.		ECW (Philip Cox)		
A			Report to agree the terms of reference for the C&W Business Advisory Board	Agreement for Terms of Reference to establish an initial Business Advisory Board as part of continued private sector influence and engagement for the sub-region.		ECW (Philip Cox)		
A	21/06/24	CWaC	CANCELLED					
A	26/07/24	WBC	BAB Membership	Ratify ex-officio membership		ECW (Philip Cox)		
A			Finance for the Skills Bootcamp Programme	Approval of funding bid to DfE.		ECW (Pat Jackson)		
A/B			Joint Committee Membership and other matters (inc. Forward Plan)	Update and seek direction		SRPO (Peter Jones)		

JOINT COMMITTEE FORWARD PLAN 2024/25
Version 27th September 2024

PART A/B	Joint Committee (Dates tbc)	Venue	Title (draft where not complete)	Purpose of Report	Member Lead	Officer Lead	NOTES
B	27/09/24	CEC	Business Advisory Board	Report to approve appointments following open recruitment (Chair and members)	Cllr LG	ECW (Philip Cox)	
A/B			Joint Committee Forward Plan	Update and seek direction	Cllr LG	SRPO (Peter Jones)	
A	29/11/24	CWaC	Report to agree Sub-Regional Portfolio Holders	Establish sub-regional portfolios and named Portfolio Holders from Joint Committee membership and named CEO support.		Growth Directors C&W Councils	
B			SIEP Consultation Report	Agree consultation documentation ahead of formal consultation		ECW (Philip Cox/Melissa Crellin)	
A			ECW Detailed business plan and budget report	Following-on from the outline Business Plan, additional budget items and delivery detail will need to be agreed by the Shareholders. This timing takes account of fund		ECW (Philip Cox)	

JOINT COMMITTEE FORWARD PLAN 2024/25
Version 27th September 2024

PART A/B	Joint Committee (Dates tbc)	Venue	Title (draft where not complete)	Purpose of Report	Member Lead	Officer Lead	NOTES
				programming by HMG.			
A			Report to agree revised arrangements for Marketing Cheshire	This report seeks Joint Committee approval for a more coherent governance arrangement for Marketing Cheshire which mirrors the ECW structure and ensures expert business support for the visitor economy.		ECW (Philip Cox)	
A			Statutory accounts (2023/24)	Review ECW statutory accounts (for 23-24) and any audit findings and recommendations.		ECW (Philip Cox)	
B			Post Election Report?	TBC – HMG strategic engagement update		TBC	
B			Fair Employment Charter	TBC		ECW (Melissa Crellin)	
B			Business Advisory Board update	Report to update on progress of the Board	BAB Chair	ECW (Philip Cox)	
A/B			Joint Committee Forward Plan	Update and seek direction	Cllr LG	SRPO (Peter Jones)	

JOINT COMMITTEE FORWARD PLAN 2024/25
Version 27th September 2024

PART A/B	Joint Committee (Dates tbc)	Venue	Title (draft where not complete)	Purpose of Report	Member Lead	Officer Lead	NOTES
A	31/01/25	WBC	Approval of ECW draft budget and business plan (for 25-26).	Shareholder agreement to Business Plan.		ECW (Philip Cox)	
B			Universal Support	Report to agree joint commissioning governance for US delivery		CWaC (Gemma Davies/Hayley Owen)	
B			Communications Protocol	JC formal comms agreement	Cllr LG	TBC	
B			Decarbonisation Cluster	TBC (Any decisions required?)		ECW (Melissa Crellin)	
B			Portfolio Update Report	Update – ensure direction of travel		ECW (Philip Cox/MD post)	
B			Business Advisory Board update	Report to update on progress	BAB Chair	ECW (Philip Cox)	
A/B			Joint Committee Forward Plan	Update and seek direction	Cllr LG	SRPO (Peter Jones)	
A			28/03/25	CEC	TBC – ECW Shareholder items	TBC	
B	Portfolio Update Report	Update – ensure direction of travel				ECW (Philip Cox/MD post)	
B	Business Advisory Board update	Report to update on progress			BAB Chair	ECW (Philip Cox)	
A/B	Joint Committee Forward Plan	Update and seek direction			Cllr LG	SRPO (Peter Jones)	

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