Birmingham City Council

Birmingham’s Ambition

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Birmingham City Council

Our LEP Area

- Birmingham
- Solihull
- East Staffordshire (Burton)
- Lichfield
- Tamworth
- 1.5 million

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Business Involvement

- Drafting Team – 7 LA, 2 Chamber, 1 FSB, 2 private businesses
- All 5 Chambers are in Birmingham Chamber Group
- 3 business consultation meetings – 250 + participants
- Consulted Lichfield / Tamworth Business & Economic Partnership
- 50 + stakeholders views built into submission
- 130 pledges of support from businesses in 4 days

The Challenges

- **Modernise manufacturing base**
- **Create private sector jobs**
- **Increase business start ups and survivors**
- **Low skills base in inner Birmingham, North Solihull, and parts of Tamworth and Burton**
- **High levels of worklessness**

The Opportunities

- **No significant output gap**
- **Over 30 national / international economic drivers**
- **Major projects under construction or in the pipeline**
- **The benefits of being the first LEP to be connected to High Speed 2**

Vision and Aims

- Increase economic output (GVA) in the area by 30% (£8.25 billion) by 2020
- Create 100,000 private sector jobs by 2020
- Stimulate growth in the business stock, survival rates and business profitability
- Boost indigenous and inward investment
- Achieve global leadership in key sectors
- Build a world class workforce with the necessary skills
- whilst dramatically reducing worklessness.

Funding

- **Establish LEP Investment Fund, exploring a variety of sources including:**

- **Bids to the Regional Growth Fund, Green New Deal and other**
- **Government and EU funding streams**
- **Retention of business rates and Accelerated Development Zones**
- **Public sector land holdings**
- **Prudential borrowing and top slicing of capital budgets**
- **Funds devolved as a result of the abolition of AWM**
- **Funding streams related to the skills agenda**
- **Joint investment with the HCA and other public funding bodies**

Governance

- A formal, legal entity chaired by a dynamic business leader
- The primary decision-making body for the area for economic development
- Business and council leaders in equal numbers
- Accountable to business through an innovative shareholder model
- Meet in public
- A duty to 'SME proof' all decisions.

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Our First Year

- A single strategy for skills, inward investment and planning across the LEP
- Extended access to finance, including via the Investbx stock exchange
- Secure further commitments for the Birmingham International Airport runway extension, High Speed Rail and superfast broadband, in addition to keeping New Street Gateway on track
- Support for ADZs and a building retrofit programme
- Launch the virtual boardroom to provide business mentoring and expanded East Staffordshire’s, Tamworth’s and Lichfield's Think Local 4 Business
- Consult further with stakeholders and agree a long term business plan for the LEP
- Establish a robust, accountable body ready to deliver

Conclusions

- **Our LEP has a concentration of economic drivers equal to anywhere outside the South East**
- **Our ambition matches our role as a national driver and global player**
- **The process of preparing our submission created tremendous team spirit amongst the partners**
- **Despite the financial constraints we face, we are looking forward with optimism to developing our LEP**

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Thank You