

Joint meeting of the SEEDA Board and Local Authority Leaders' Board 2 July 2010

Purpose

This paper reports back from a joint meeting of representatives of SEEDA Board and the Local Authority Leaders' Board held on 2 July.

Recommendation

The Board is invited to **NOTE:**

1. That the meeting concluded that all Boards and Panels of the South East England Partnership Board, including the Economic Development and Skills Board, will be discontinued with immediate effect,
2. that an informal meeting between representatives of South East England Councils, SEEDA Board, and business organisations is being arranged to explore how to work towards effective transition to Local Enterprise Partnerships. The aim is to hold this meeting before the end of July,
3. that the South East England Councils plenary meeting on 14th July agreed a proposal to set up a small Policy Co-ordination team to support local authorities and retain a voice at regional level. This would cover economic development and skills, transport & infrastructure, and planning, housing & sustainability. While small, this team should prove to be an important asset for SEEC in ensuring an effective transition to Local Enterprise Partnerships,
4. that SEEDA will continue to arrange and service meetings of the sub groups of Economic Development and Skills Board for the present time. These groups are: Business Development Advisory Group, Skills Working Group and South East Science Engineering and Technology Advisory Council, the last of which is an advisory committee of the SEEDA Board.

Financial and resource implications

There will be a small reduction in SEEDA staff resource required as a result of this change. The Economic Development and Skills Board Manager was on secondment from SEERA Ltd, and this secondment will now end with no financial liabilities for SEEDA.

Timescale

These changes take place with immediate effect.

Author

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Signed off-by

Paul Lovejoy, Executive Director (Strategy), 15 July 2010