Brighton & Hove Growth Board
3rd July March 2025, 5:00pm – 7:00 pm
Council Chamber Hove Town Hall

MINUTES

Attendees:	Dean Orgill	Mayo Wynne Baxter [Chair]
	Cllr Jacob Taylor	BHCC
	Mark Buchanan Smith	Ingka Group/Churchill Square
	Sarah Springford	Brighton Chamber
	Jessica Sumner	Community Works
	Kevan Smith	Brighton United
	Tom Willis	Shoreham Port
	Jo Havers	University of Brighton
	Mohit Bajaj	Simplex Services
	Richard Freeman	Always Possible
	Victoria King	Plus Accounting
	Gavin Stewart	BHGB/Brighton BID
	James May	Sussex Cricket
	Peter Sharp	BHCC
Apologies:	Razak Helalat	BlackRock Restaurants
	Ana Christie	Sussex Chambers
	Alison Turner	FSB
	Vanessa Potter	SCTP

1.0 <u>Welcome, Apologies and minutes of last meeting</u>
Dean Orgill (DO, Chair) welcomed everyone to the meeting. GS advised on the apologies and the minutes to the previous meeting were agreed.

2.0 <u>Chairs Communications</u>

DO outlined the following Chair's Communications

Do thanked the group for their valuable contributions at the meeting on 3 April. Saying he was encouraged by the energy and commitment across all sectors as we continue laying the foundations for our newly evolving Economic Growth Partnership.

Progress and Positioning: DO advised that we had refined our Terms of Reference to ensure alignment with the Executive Committee and are weaving export trade and a formal workplan into our strategic priorities.

The Executive Director role is now approved—marking a significant milestone. That said, the challenge of securing sustainable funding remains a priority as we pursue integration with wider devolution opportunities.

Governance and Recruitment: DO advised that we are on track with formal governance—our designation as an official 'outside body' progressed to BHCC Cabinet in March and DO was pleased to announce that this was unanimously accepted. DO further advised that he was honoured to continue as Chair through the first year, and was very pleased by the strong response to the recruitment campaign. We are now at our full compliment and DO extended a very warm welcome to:

- Jessica Sumner — Community Works
- Jo Havers — University of Brighton
- Kevan Smith — Brighton United
- Mohit Bajaj — Simples Services
- Razak Helalat — Blackrock Restaurants
- Richard Freeman — Always Possible
- Victoria King — Plus Accounting
- Tom Willis — Shoreham Port

Communications and Identity: DO added that we are moving forward with evolving the existing BHEP website, ensuring continuity and audience reach while our comprehensive comms plan is shaped. Maintaining a distinct presence, independent of the council, remains key to fostering business engagement. As such would like to propose our working logo as:

Note to minutes – the logo was discussed later in the meeting and an update was agreed.

Sector Insights: DO added that lively sector updates reinforced the complexity and resilience of our local economy. While business rates, cybercrime, and recruitment remain pressures, it was especially encouraging to see strong momentum from initiatives like the Scale Up Brighton & Hove pilot—supporting 32 businesses against a target of 25.

Looking Ahead we agreed to focus our first collaborative project on celebrating Brighton & Hove and welcoming inward investment—an idea that sparked immediate enthusiasm. Mapping our economic goals against future devolution opportunities offers us a compelling blueprint for influence. DO advised there would be a short update on this later in the meeting.

<u>3.0 Declarations of Conflicts of Interest</u>

No further declarations were received.

<u>4.0 Get Sussex Working Consultation</u>

DO welcomed Lisa Mitchell, Skills and Partnerships Manager, BHCC to the meeting. LM's slides have been shared with these minutes. The highlights were:

The three pillars to the Government's Get Britain Working Plan are:

- A modern Industrial Strategy and Local Growth Plans – to create more good jobs in every part of the country
- Improving the quality and security of work through the Make Work Pay Plan
- Reforms to employment support, bringing together skills and health to get more people into work and to get on in work

LM advised that the Modern Industrial Strategy is an integral part of the growth mission to make it easier and simpler for companies to do business, giving them the stability to make long-term investments. We will do this by easing the investor journey. and tackling the blockers that undermine confidence and stop them investing in the UK's future growth.

It will enhance skills and increase access to talent by reforming the skills and employment support system to create a strong pipeline, with opportunities for good jobs across the country; an increase in technology training and boosts for engineering, digital, and defence skills; and a visa system and new Global Talent Taskforce that supports high-growth sectors and attracts talented individual to the UK

LM went on to say that the Industrial Strategy has Ten Growth sectors:

1. Advanced Manufacturing
2. Clean Energy Industries
3. Creative Industries.
4. Defence
5. Digital & Technologies
6. Financial Services
7. Life Sciences
8. Professional & Business Services

Additional Critical Sectors:

1. Construction: Essential for building new homes and infrastructure.
2. Health & Adult Social Care: Faces significant demographic pressures and skills shortages.

LM went on to say that a **New Growth and Skills Levy** would:

- Replace the Apprenticeship Levy
- Create 8m fast track apprenticeships (August)
- Create Entry level foundation apprenticeships
- Flexible English and Maths requirements for over 19s (now)
- Refocus funding away from L7 apart from 16-21

LM went on to say that the **Get Sussex Working Plan** was a Government ambition to align geography to the Devolution Priority Programme. It would have West Sussex CC as the Accountable Body for Brighton and Hove. Initial oversight would be provided through the GSW Partnership Group and that post devolution the Plan would be owned by the Mayoral Combined Authority (MCA).

The Get Sussex Working plan would include:

- Labour Market Intelligence
- Drivers and causes of economic inactivity
- Current system and offer

- Systematic changes required to improve employment outcomes
- Place based action plan for Brighton and Hove
- Local governance arrangement and monitoring proposals

And it would be informed by commissioned consultation and data analysis.

The Get Sussex Working Plan priorities are:

- Unemployment
- High number of Universal Credit Claimants
- Demographics – aging workforce
- High number of Young People who are NEET
- Availability of jobs
- Economic inactivity
- Low resident earnings
- Low qualification attainment
- Responding to needs of diverse communities
- Limited large numbers of employers
- Transport, housing and infrastructure
- Health inequalities

LM advised that the Sussex missions were:

1. Create the appropriate infrastructure, partnerships and processes to enable delivery of the Get Sussex Working Plan within the context of devolution.
2. Address the skills and employment needs of diverse groups of residents, overcoming their barriers, so that people can access and sustain meaningful and good work.
3. Develop an employer engagement approach to support and promote inclusive workplaces, recruitment practices, training and progression pathways.
4. Respond to the needs of different geographies across Sussex (coastal, rural and urban) through partnerships and targeted interventions.
5. Collaborate to enable an inclusive economy, working with anchor institutions, to facilitate system-wide approaches that embed employment and skills as key strategic considerations.
6. Cultivate a skilled workforce that meets current and future needs, through provision that sustains and grows the economy, including in key sectors; and enables residents and employers to access skills development and training pathways that support career progression.

LM concluded the presentation.

Cllr Taylor advised that this is the start of putting the bones on what we want devolution to be. Cllr Taylor said that this is our chance in this plan submission to be saying what we think we need from all of our sectors across the city in terms of skills and development.
saying he was cognizant that a mayor may well be elected in May next year and the mayor will start casting around for what are the priorities we need and we need to start fleshing them out ourselves.

RF raised the issue of a crisis in entry level jobs and why the claimants between the ages of 18 and 25 is rising so sharply is because the lack of availability of those early careers jobs. Adding that we need to shift back recognising developing young talent.

TW added that it was critical to maintain the bus fare cap so that people can actually get to work. TW went on to say that entry level workers need to be in the office much more than other workers.

JS added that there should be a reflection on volunteering as a pathway into work. It's a really strong way to establish or re-establish a passion for learning, training and education and also connectivity with local communities. So wouldn't want to lose the power of volunteering as a progression into work.

LM thanked the group for their feedback and confirmed that we would need to focus on outcomes. LM asked that members directed comments to her via email lisa.mitchell@brighton-hove.gov.uk

5.0 Industrial Strategy Update

DO welcomed Sam Lucas from MHCLG to the meeting. A two-page summary document was tabled and is appended to these minutes. SL advised that other strategies have come out recently including, the trade strategy, the infrastructure strategy and the small business strategy which MHCLG is expecting to come out this side of summer. SL added that there's also the planning and infrastructure bill that's making progress through the House as well.

The industrial strategy is a high-level document.

It sets out some ambitions for the next 10 years, so it will be supplemented over time with more clarity and what the interventions are. There's still definitely a chance to influence the future development of the strategy and what some of those policies and programmes that will fall out of the strategy will become.

SL advised that colleagues at the Department for Business and Trade who are leading on the strategy want to engage and understand what local places think and feel about the strategy and how they want to take it forward.

SL added that in the industrial strategy there is a focus and some benefits to areas with a mayor who already have a combined authority. Obviously there is work happening in Brighton and Hove with East and West Sussex on that path.

SL added that this gives some opportunities in the future to maybe take even more advantage from the industrial strategy. He added that there has been a lot of focus from a lot of people on the 8 sectors that are identified in the industrial strategy. However, it is important to remember it's a national strategy. It can't be all things to all people in all places. There won't be any part of the country that will be able to take advantage of all eight of the priority sectors.

SL concluded by saying it's going to be important in Brighton and Hove to work across Sussex to look at where you think you can fit in best there or take maximum advantage of what those sectors are.

JH advised that the University was interested to see where it goes and to find out about how the money is going to be distributed, how that fits in with the region and whether that's Brighton and Hove or wider Sussex. JH went on to say that they are very clear that Skills England will also focus on the industrial aid. JH added that they are thinking about the foundations that go across all of the sectors and thinking about how we deal with place because we don't fit into the definition of place within the industrial strategy. JH concluded by saying it's an opportunity for us to redefine who and what we are and what we say to government in a way that we haven't necessarily done before. Adding that the link for the first time between an industrial strategy and the skills strategy is really welcomed.

DO added there will be a quite big chunks of the local economy that think they don't feature on the list. So the messaging to them is going to need to be inclusive that yes, in this area some of those sectors are covered, but we haven't forgotten you just because you don't do these well. For example, a wine manufacturer or transport or hospitality, which are quite big sectors in this area.

SL responded by saying this has been an issue in a lot of places across the country that by highlighting 8 key sectors, it does make some people think why am I not a key sector? Because this is a national strategy it doesn’t mean that specific sectors aren't priorities. It's just they're not part of the 8 sectors highlighted in in this document, which is only one of a number of strategies and documents that that are out at the moment.

TW added, to illustrate this point and the sector is still slightly reeling, but 95% of goods in this country are transporting by sea. We decided to leave our major trading partner and we're an island. And maritime imports have not made the 8. Which is maybe to add on what Jo and Dean said about the sector focus and the challenges of the list. This feels a very, very targeted place oriented strategy, with Oxford mentioned 16 times and Brighton only mentioned half the time grouped together with a bunch of other broadly creative and tech places on the South. TW asked, Do you have any advice for how in the next iteration, Brighton and Sussex can have a bit more of a profile? What do we need to do?

SL encouraged the group to engage with DBT colleagues and other government colleagues on this. either on a Brighton and Hove level or wider on the Sussex footprint with the mayor and to be looking at potential opportunities of a mayor coming in and the representation they can give. You also need to be thinking about the story you can tell about the place and the benefits of the place and the priorities you have.

Cllr JT gave the following update on Devolution:

Devolution overview:

- Brings powers and funding from national to local government level.
- Current UK model proposes creating **strategic (mayoral) authorities** to oversee these powers.

Sussex Mayoral Authority:

- Government expected to approve a **Sussex-wide mayoral authority**.
- A **Sussex Mayor** will likely be elected in **May next year**.
- The authority will include **East Sussex, West Sussex, and Brighton & Hove**.

- Senior councillors from each area will form a cabinet around the Mayor, making strategic decisions on how devolved powers and funding are used.

Local Government Reorganisation (running in parallel):

- Government also intends to move toward **unitary authorities** (where one council delivers all local services).
- Current system in East and West Sussex includes:
    - Tier 1 (county councils) for services like education and adult social care.
    - Tier 2 (district/borough councils) for more local services.
- Brighton & Hove already operates as a **unitary authority**.

Planned changes:

- The government wants **fewer, larger councils** to improve resilience and financial sustainability.
- Local areas, including **Brighton & Hove**, will be asked to consult on **potential mergers** to create slightly larger unitary authorities.

Next steps:

- Local consultations expected soon to explore council mergers.
- Government will then propose new local authority boundaries and structures.
- These restructured councils will form part of the overarching **Sussex Mayoral Authority**.

6.0 Sector Feedback and Introduction of New Board Members

6.1 Jo Havers

- Representing University of Brighton and the education sector, with responsibility for knowledge exchange (external engagement).
- Leads civic university activities including public and community engagement, research, and innovation.
- Tuition fees have lost value—now worth only two-thirds of their original level; a recent £250 increase is contingent on civic engagement and economic growth.
- Energy costs have risen dramatically—e.g., one building's annual energy bill rose from £250k to £1.5m.
- Universities must act competitively despite not operating in a true marketplace.
- Both universities in the city are making significant cuts; Sussex faces deeper reductions than Brighton.
- FE colleges continue to be underfunded and face similar financial challenges.
- All institutions are collaborating under civic agreements, recognising their roles as anchor institutions.
- There's a shared ambition and commitment to regional skills, progression, and economic development.

- University of Brighton works with over 120 external organisations through its industrial advisory boards, underlining its outward-looking approach.

6.2 Tom Willis

- Tom Willis represents Shoreham Port, a trust port established in 1760—an independent, not-for-profit organisational model.
- Operates commercially, but reinvests profits to improve the port; growth measured by revenue rather than profit.
- Described as a “pre-B Corp” due to its purpose-driven reinvestment approach.
- Has doubled revenues over five years despite Brexit-related challenges, especially with EU trade.
- Major business areas include:
  - Commercial fishing (inshore and visiting fleets), supplying Brighton’s restaurants; UK’s top scallop port due to progressive inshore bylaw reforms.
  - Commercial property: hosts 180 small businesses across its estate. Noted increase in business turnover and closures, but maintains a strong reputation as a fair landlord and attracts new tenants.
  - Cargo and construction handling (aggregates, steel, timber), especially serving local construction—1% year-on-year growth in Q1.
- Construction sector is showing early signs of recovery, supporting moderate cargo growth.

Kevan Smtih

Represents two sectors:

- **Epiphany Content** – a business focused on marketing, branding, and storytelling.
  - Experiencing strong demand for creative storytelling projects.
  - Notable growth in interest and investment, particularly from the charity sector.
- **Brighton United** – a community initiative promoting equitable representation in business and cultural arts.
  - Strong public appetite for community events and shared experiences.
  - Events are highly attended, indicating a desire for connection and storytelling.
  - Emphasis on equipping people with tools to tell their own stories more effectively.

6.3 Mohit Bajaj

- Mohit represents **Simplex Services**, a company he co-founded, operating in the **IT services sector** (software development and IT support).
- **Opportunities are strong**, especially in financial services, both in the UK and overseas.
- **Conversion of opportunities remains slow**, creating a lag between interest and delivery.
- Post-COVID shifts to **nearshore/offshore models** (e.g. Poland, India) have exposed challenges:

- Difficulty sourcing quality offshore talent.

- Limited capacity to fulfil roles locally due to high costs, skill shortages, and **IR35 regulatory constraints**.
- Suggests potential solutions such as **expanding apprenticeship schemes** to build local capability.
- Notes a **mismatch in local employment**:
- Most hires are still based in London.
- Difficulty recruiting in Brighton and the Southeast, despite demand.
- Emphasises that while **market opportunities exist**, **fulfilment remains a critical bottleneck**.

6.4 <u>Cllr Jacob Taylor</u>

- The Council remains in a challenging financial position, with rising homelessness and increased pressure from temporary accommodation.
- Addressing housing-related costs is a key priority for early action this year and reflects broader housing market issues in the city.
- Immediate focus is on short-term financial stabilisation and budget planning for the upcoming year.
- Several major development projects are progressing:
    - Environmental projects, including Madeira Terraces restoration and King Alfred leisure centre redevelopment.
    - Sackville Road housing site in Hove (300+ units) via a joint venture.
    - In Moulsecoomb & Bevendean, a housing and community facilities scheme (220 units) is underway.
- Early signs of economic recovery:
    - Improved parking revenue suggests increased footfall and visitor activity.
    - Positive outlook for the retail and leisure sectors.
    - A major focus is preparation for government reorganisation and devolution, which is expected to progress quickly and requires significant internal planning.

6.5 <u>Mark Buchanan Smith</u>

- UK retail sales fell by 2.7% in May, highlighting ongoing consumer spending fragility.
- Online retail sales rose 0.8% over the past three months, indicating modest digital growth in a low-growth environment.
- Household finances are improving, with consumers saving at record levels.
- River Island announced a restructuring plan and closure of 33 stores, including one in Churchill Square.
- Churchill Square remains agile, with early interest in the vacated River Island unit.
- The fashion sector is performing reasonably well, but retail still faces strong headwinds, particularly rising employment costs.
- If the current trend holds, 2025 could see the **lowest number of retail bankruptcies** in a decade.

- Citywide footfall is up by 2%, with sales increasing around 1%.
- Brighton's retail **vacancy rates remain well below the national average**.
- Retailers continue to **right-size portfolios**, pulling out of smaller markets like Worthing, Eastbourne, and Crawley—benefiting Brighton but challenging for the region.
- High street retailers are shifting toward **larger city-based stores** to showcase fuller product ranges.

- Shifting models observed:
  - IKEA is entering the city centre (a move from its traditional out-of-town format).
  - H&M and Zara are trialling out-of-town formats.
- Recruitment is a major challenge:
  - Churchill Square hosts 80 stores; 20 store manager changes occurred in the last six weeks.

6.7 Jim May

- Sport contributes across three key areas:
- Voluntary participation: Wide community involvement in sport significantly enhances public health and well-being—crucial given its role in economic productivity.
- City branding: Sport can elevate the city's profile; it's underrepresented in city literature and promotion.
  - Brighton and Hove Albion enjoy a major international presence and are looking to build a stadium for Women's football.
  - Sussex Cricket has a large following, particularly across southern England and South Asian communities via streaming platforms.
  - International sporting links (e.g. Lancashire Cricket Club's mayoral visit to India) showcase sport's potential in attracting foreign investment.
- Leisure sector impact: Sport is a major component of Brighton's broad leisure economy.
  - Brighton & Hove Albion continues to perform well and contribute to the city's visibility.
  - Sussex Cricket has plans to redevelop its ground, adding to ongoing momentum in the sector.
- Other cities actively promote their sports credentials—Brighton could benefit from amplifying its own.

6.6 Richard Freeman

- In recent years, consultancy work was marked by **low confidence and economic uncertainty**, leading many businesses to adopt cautious, short-term strategies.
- More recently, there's been a **shift toward long-term thinking** and **increased appetite for strategic risk-taking**.
- Works with a **diverse client base**—from professional services and tech to projects like Sussex Bay, South Downs National Park, and manufacturing firms.

    - Focus is less on core products and more on **ecosystem impact**, such as skills development, community wealth building, and regeneration.

- Confidence is returning, with **collaborative and innovative ideas emerging** across sectors.
- A key project is **"Sussex and the City"**—a coalition of thinkers, businesses, and community leaders:

    - Aims to fill the **knowledge vacuum around devolution**.

    - Builds an **independent, non-political, open-source platform**.

    - Shares daily and weekly content, currently reaching 3,000–4,000 business leaders per week.

- Rising interest in **regional opportunity thinking**, beyond self-interest:

    - Encouraging a shift toward **big-picture, long-term structural solutions**.

    - Exploring how individuals and organisations can **play a role in regional transformation**.

- Emphasis on creating **accessible, high-impact platforms** to gather momentum and gain traction.

6.7 <u>Sarah Springford</u>

- Brighton Chamber represents over 600 businesses, organisations, and charities, and engages with 3,000–4,000 groups more broadly.
- Many smaller businesses have recently closed, merged, or shifted into employment roles.
- There is a growing sense of confidence, though many businesses feel busy rather than profitable.
- Ongoing challenges include:

    - Housing affordability—even those on decent salaries struggle to live in the city.

    - Transport access—particularly difficult for young people commuting to work.

    - Lack of business support and affordable upskilling opportunities.

    - Workspace costs—despite improved availability, scaling businesses face high expenses.

    - Recruitment challenges, especially for global brands seeking top-tier talent.

    - Operational hurdles, such as waste collection and delivery unloading fines.

- There's a strong case for showcasing the Brighton city brand—highlighting business strengths and tackling shared challenges collaboratively.

6.8 <u>Victoria King</u>

- Represents **Plus Accounting**, serving nearly 2,000 clients—primarily in the **creative, digital, and hospitality sectors**.
- **Mounting cost pressures** for both the firm and its clients:

    - Rising employer National Insurance contributions, minimum wage thresholds, and energy costs.

    - Cash flow is tightening, which constrains strategic decisions such as investment, hiring, and business growth.

- **Professional advice costs** are being scrutinised more closely, making consultancy support feel out of reach for some clients.
- Despite sector pressures, **Plus Accounting is expanding**:
    - Significant recruitment over the past 18 months.
    - Relocating to **larger premises**, bucking the wider trend of client caution.
- Many businesses are **delaying long-term decisions** due to financial uncertainty.
- **Skills shortages** are widespread—particularly acute in creative, digital, and finance:
    - The firm is struggling to recruit from apprentices to qualified accountants.
    - Exploring outsourcing as a last resort, though not preferred as a local, independent business.
- **Tax reliefs** exist but are **poorly marketed and underutilised**; many clients are unaware or underclaiming opportunities that could fuel reinvestment.
- Clients increasingly ask about **local government decisions**, especially around:
    - Business rates
    - Parking
    - Planning

6.9 <u>Jessica Sumner</u>

- **Grant funding pressures**:
    - Success rates for grant bids have dropped from 1 in 9 to 1 in 20.
    - Smaller organisations are particularly vulnerable due to limited financial reserves.
- **Sector instability**:
    - Rapid change is making it hard to find stability or long-term direction.
    - Confusion over "place" definitions is weakening community connection and identity.
- **Community voice and representation**:
    - As structural governance scales up (e.g. Sussex and Surrey collaborations), there's a risk of **community voices being lost**.
    - Growing concern about residents not identifying with imposed definitions of neighbourhoods or places.
- **Challenges in maintaining local connections**:
    - Stronger emphasis is needed on actual delivery of local engagement, not just policy language.
    - Voluntary organisations are struggling to sustain meaningful ties with communities as inequalities widen.

- **Persistent inequalities**:
    - Tackling health and social inequalities remains a **critical issue** for the city.
    - Concerns around losing focus on community needs amidst broader structural or policy changes.
- **Recruitment and workforce pressures**:
    - Widespread redundancies and limited ability to raise salaries due to funding constraints.
    - Heavy reliance on values-led employment decisions is becoming unsustainable as personal living costs rise.

6.11 Gavin Stewart

- Brighton City Centre BID consultation underway:
    - Engaging hospitality, leisure, retail, and professional sectors to determine continuation of the BID.
    - Positive ballot outcome in Oct–Nov would secure £2.5 million in private sector investment for 2026–2031.
    - Currently consulting 550 member businesses and an additional 500 non-members across the city centre.
- Focus on community, place, and local control:
    - Aims to empower businesses and residents to shape the city centre's development collaboratively.
- Key concerns raised by businesses:
    - Rising costs: National Insurance, business rates, and loss of small business rate relief.
    - High levels of anxiety among SMEs, which make up 91.5% of the city's business base.
    - Ongoing issues like waste management remain a frequent concern.
- Destination Experience Group leadership:
    - Brings together major hotels and tourist attractions.
    - Core concern: look and feel of the city—chewing gum, graffiti, waste, and weeds.
    - These issues impact both visitor experience and inward investment potential.
- Event-led regeneration and marketing:
    - BID is supporting the Women's Rugby World Cup, coming to Brighton later this year.
    - Coordinated efforts with the Council to visually dress the city centre for the event.

- Recognised need to do more to showcase sport

7.0 Executive Director update

7.1 Board Name

GS advised that at a previous meeting the group had settled on a working title for the group. GS asked the wider group to consider the name of the committee that would be used going forward. After some discussion the group agreed on **Brighton & Hove Growth Board.** JS suggested that we would need to manage how we talk about the Brighton Growth Board so that it's not seen as Brighton & Hove growing on top of everywhere else and disregarding existing boundaries that exist. Adding that we need to be more sensitive around our communications of what does that mean and what is the attitude of Brighton as part of Sussex if it's got its growth board, how are we defining growth and how we were supporting growth in our neighbouring areas. The group agreed.

7.2 Logo

The group discussed the logo and agreed to move the wording away from the image to make it more readable. ACTION: GS to update logo as per group comments.

8.0 Inward Investment Update

PS advised that the given the paper had been previously tabled he was happy to take questions. No questions were raised.

9.0 AOB

No other business was discussed.

Date and Time of Next Meetings:

TBC