

Appendix C

SELEP's Boards and Federated Board Structure

SELEP Boards

The SELEP Strategic Board sets the vision for the Partnership. It is responsible for formulating and agreeing strategy (including investment strategies and thematic or sector-based strategies). It has an advocacy role to call on the Government and other local partners to invest in and prioritise our locality. One of the Strategic Board's responsibilities is agreeing which investment priorities should form a pipeline of projects for when future funding becomes available. It delegates this responsibility to the SELEP Investment Panel in respect of Local Growth Funding and Growing Places Funding.

The SELEP Accountability Board provides the system of checks-and-balances. While the SELEP Investment Panel can propose which projects should receive funding, the money is only released to these projects after the SELEP Accountability Board has met to review each project's business case and voted in its favour. The SELEP Accountability Board, whose voting members are the 6 county and unitary council leaders, must be confident that the projects which SELEP invests in demonstrate high certainty of delivering good value for money in a specified timescale. No funding can be drawn down without their approval.

The SELEP Accountability Board operates under a Joint Committee Agreement, which was signed on the 13th November 2015 by each of the six county and unitary councils within the SELEP area. Unlike the Investment Panel, the Accountability Board is not a sub-committee of the SELEP Strategic Board.

Federated Boards of SELEP

The South East Local Enterprise Partnership (SELEP) is the largest LEPs in the country by population, once London LEP is excluded.

To facilitate informed discussion of local economic development priorities over such a large geographical area, the South East Local Enterprise Partnership established and operated under a federated board model. This is an essential and fundamental component of SELEP.

There are currently four federated boards operating in SELEP. These four boards are:

- Kent and Medway Economic Partnership (KMEP)
- Team East Sussex (TES)
- Opportunity South Essex (OSE)
- Success Essex (SE)

The Kent and Medway Economic Partnership comprises 33 board members. These are:

- Leader (or their delegate) of Kent County Council – x1
- Leader (or their delegate) of Medway Council – x1
- Leaders (or their delegates) of the twelve district councils in Kent – x12

- A University Vice-Chancellor (this position is currently filled by Canterbury Christ Church University) – x1
- A Further Education College Principal (this position is currently filled by Mid-Kent College). – x1
- Business leaders from across Kent and Medway – x17. (These business leaders are selected by the Business Advisory Board – a business forum of 50 businesses, which is open to any business in Kent and Medway to apply to join).