

**Meeting:** Coast to Capital Board Meeting  
**Date:** Thursday 17 October 2019  
**Report Title:** Local Industrial Strategy Update  
**Report by:** Kirsten Trussell  
**Item No:** 3  
**Part:** A

---

## Recommendation:

The Board is asked to note progress on our Local Industrial Strategy and to agree a mandate to engage stakeholders on the draft LIS structure as set out in Annex A.

### 1. Context

Coast to Capital is part of the Wave 3 Local Industrial Strategy (LIS) negotiations with Government and are working towards completing the document by the end of the financial year.

The team have been working over the past six months to develop the LIS by commissioning various research reports to create a complete and detailed LIS evidence base. Government has said that LIS proposals should be based on an incontestable evidence base. The economic profile, which summarises all of our LIS research, is open for public consultation until 31 October. After this we move into the next phase of developing LIS propositions based on the evidence. The final phase will be negotiations with Government and finalising the LIS document.

### 2. Progress so far

With a mandate from the Board, Jonathan established the Local Industrial Strategy Programme Group to provide governance and oversight of the LIS progress. The Programme Group is now well established and has local authority representation from Brighton & Hove, West Sussex and Surrey. Through this group, a suite of further research projects were commissioned and will inform the proposals for our LIS. The final research reports for Digital Connectivity and the Skills and Labour Market study are complete and published on our website. The remaining reports will be complete by the end of October.

Additionally, we have refreshed the evidence base in Gatwick 360° and created a single Economic Profile, drawing in the findings from the further research projects, and aligned with Government's 5 foundations of productivity. This was following

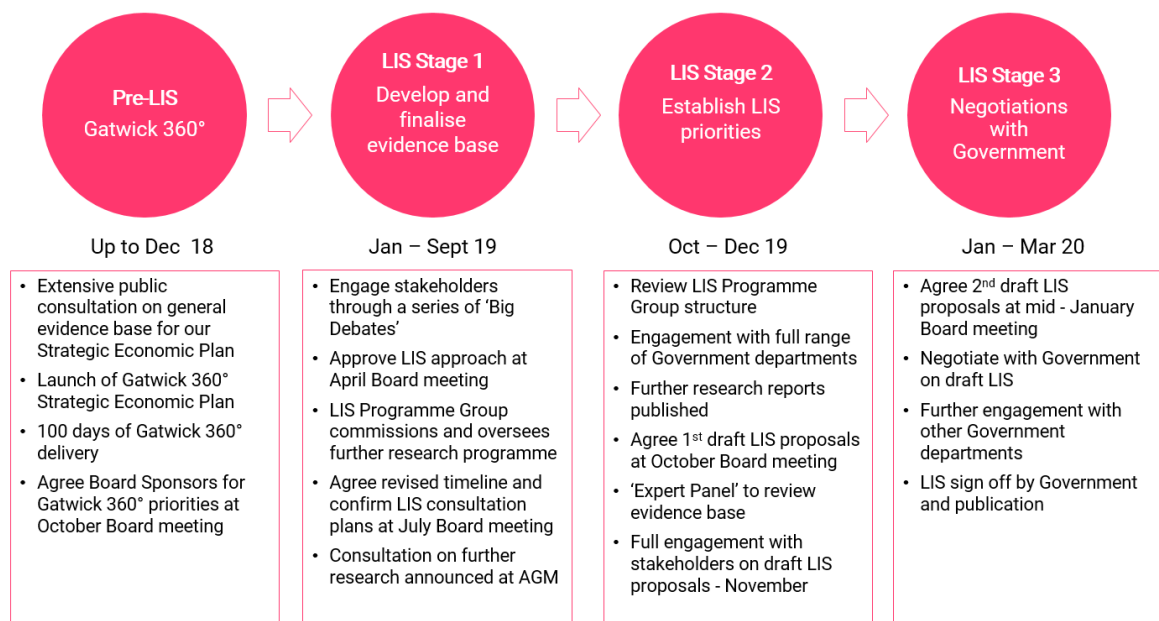
advice from CLGU that Government are looking for a single evidence base drawing all of our research together. On 19 September we published a draft report of the updated Economic Profile on our website for a six week period of public consultation until 31 October.

### 3. LIS content

Attached at Annex A is a draft of our LIS structure, to be used (subject to Board comment and approval) for engagement with key stakeholders. This will be elaborated further at the Board meeting.

### 4. Timeline

Based on our discussions with CLGU there are currently no intentions to delay the LIS process. Therefore we continue with the timeline to complete our preparations on the LIS in order to negotiate with Government and publish by the end of March 2020, as agreed at our July Board meeting. We will discuss the draft LIS structure at the October Board meeting and with Board mandate will engage fully with stakeholders on our proposals and return to Board with final proposals in January, seeking a mandate to formally negotiate on that basis with Government.



### 5. Stakeholder engagement and consultation

Using our Government funding, we have commissioned Cobb PR, a specialist consultancy, to support our stakeholder management on this work. They know the Coast to Capital area well and are experienced with our stakeholders. They have developed a stakeholder engagement plan which will allow us to achieve excellent engagement, discussion and input from interested parties in the development of our proposals. This will include significant discussions with local authorities, businesses and education partners on the LIS proposition as it develops.

The consultation on the Economic Profile is ongoing. We commissioned Hatch Regeneris to undertake the analysis of the consultation responses following a robust tendering process. They were able to meet our timescales and offered value for money, with good detail on how they would go about analysing the responses.

After the consultation closes, an analysis report will be produced, after which we will convene an Expert Panel to provide independent scrutiny on the LIS evidence base and propositions. We understand the importance of governance and scrutiny, and as a part of the process of developing our LIS we are keen to seek the views of independent experts. This Panel will be chaired by Adam Tickell and will be formed of academic and independent private sector representatives.

It is important to note that the final LIS document will be co-authored with Government and, while the content of the document will be influenced by our consultation and engagement with all partners, we will not be consulting on the final LIS document as was done with Gatwick 360°.

## **6. Conclusion**

We have learned from other LEP colleagues and Government that the process of negotiating the LIS with Treasury can take up to 8 weeks and our draft LIS will need to be reviewed by the LISA (Local Industrial Strategy Analytical) Panel and OGDs before going to Treasury. The results of the consultation will help us to review and develop our draft LIS proposals. We will test the draft LIS propositions at the Expert Panel in November and through extensive engagement activity with our stakeholders prior to January Board.

## **7. Diversity Statement**

There are no diversity implications for consideration regarding the recommendations set out in this paper.

## **8. Legal Statement**

There are no legal implications for consideration regarding the recommendations set out in this paper.

### **Annexes:**

- Annex A – Draft LIS structure