

## DECISION NOTICE

### Cabinet Meeting - 6 March 2019

Present: Philip Atkins, OBE (Chairman), Helen Fisher, Gill Heath, Mike Sutherland, Mark Sutton, Alan White, Philip White and Mark Winnington.

Also in attendance – Susan Woodward.

Apologies for absence: Mark Deaville

#### PART ONE

#### 78. Decision notice of the meeting held on 20 February 2019

**Decision** – That the notes of the meeting held on 20 February 2019 be approved.

#### 79. Stoke-on-Trent and Staffordshire Local Enterprise Partnership Review - Move to Incorporated Body



“The county council has been an active part of the Stoke-on-Trent and Staffordshire Local Enterprise Partnership (SSLEP) since it was created almost a decade ago. Our role has included providing the accountable body role for the LEP and giving direct support through additional dedicated staff time and low-cost accommodation and associated freely provided services.

We now look forward to participating fully within the ongoing development of SSLEP, ensuring that its future direction supports the aspirational and ambitious needs of Staffordshire businesses and communities.

As a democratically elected representative director, the County Council’s Leader will ensure the SSLEP will continue to be democratically accountable to our residents. The role that the county council will play in the SSLEP in promoting economic growth, ensuring the benefit of local people, is considerable.”

Philip Atkins, Leader of the Council



“One of our top priorities as a county council is to create and develop the right conditions for economic growth. We want our residents to access better jobs and be part of a more prosperous county. Economic growth helps to secure long term financial stability and is a key contributing factor in the wider determinants of health and wellbeing.

Working with the SSLEP, we have already supported the

	<p>creation of thousands of jobs in higher value-added sectors which will have a positive impact on improving the productivity of Staffordshire's economy.”</p> <p>Mark Winnington, Cabinet Member for Economic Growth</p>
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**Reasons for the Decision** – The government's National Local Growth Assurance Framework (January 2019) requires Local Enterprise Partnerships (LEPs) to move from informal partnerships into an incorporated body structure by 31 March 2019.

**Decision** – (a) That approval be given to the County Council joining the new SSLEP company limited by guarantee as a member; and that the liability on the County Council in respect of becoming a member of company limited by guarantee, as detailed in the report, be noted.

(b) That the Leader of the County Council be appointed as a Director of the SSLEP company Board of Directors, with the Portfolio Holder for Economic Growth providing the nominated alternate.

(c) That the County Council continues as the Accountable Body for the SSLEP in its incorporated form.

(d) That Officers be requested to consider the likely additional requirements of undertaking the administrative role for the company (Company Secretary), on either a temporary or permanent basis, with the final decision on whether to undertake that role being delegated to the Leader in discussion with the Chief Executive.

(e) That the scrutiny arrangements that will be in place for the new company (as detailed in the report) be noted.

**Philip Atkins OBE  
Leader of the Council**