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**Title: Presentation from Iain Stewart MP Chair of the All Party Parliamentary Group (APPG) and Government Champion for the Cambridge : Milton Keynes : Oxford Growth Corridor.**

**Purpose: To provide Board members with an update on Iain's initial findings in his role as Government Champion and on the future activity of the APPG.**

**Recommendation: That members note the update and consider the role BTVLEP can play in supporting the work of the APPG in delivering economic led growth for the corridor.**

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1 In December 2017, the then Communities Secretary Sajid Javid announced a new champion for the Cambridge-Milton Keynes-Oxford corridor. Iain Stewart MP, who represents Milton Keynes South, took on the role of standard-bearer for this important economic area working with partners to help it fulfil its potential. As part of the role Mr Stewart will champion a vision for the corridor with stakeholders including local authorities, MPs, Local Enterprise Partnerships and local businesses. He will gather intelligence on local issues and update government to help deliver this vision in a way that is locally informed and attend events and meetings. Along with local stakeholders and ministers as appropriate, to promote the corridor, for example to promote trade and investment and carry out media engagements to promote the corridor.

2 To support this role the All Party Parliamentary Group was launched at the House of Commons on January 31<sup>st</sup> with both the Chairman and Chief Executive of this LEP in attendance.

Speakers at the launch event included Cllr Martin Tett, Chairman, England's Economic Heartland, Rob Brighouse, Chairman, East West Rail Company & Matt Stafford, Project Director, Highways England.

The following representatives were elected as Officers of the APPG:

- Iain Stewart MP – Chair
- Rt. Hon Dame Cheryl Gillan MP – Vice Chair
- Rt. Hon Lord Faulkner of Worcester – Vice Chair
- Daniel Zeichner MP – Vice Chair

An initial draft report from the group was presented to Sajid Javid just prior to his appointment as Home Secretary and is now being reviewed by the current Communities Secretary James Brokenshire.

2 Across the growth corridor there are three distinct areas of activity in development. The economic vision for the corridor in support of the Industrial Strategy is being developed by the 3 LEPs and the mayoral combined authority for Cambridge and Peterborough. England's Economic Heartland are leading on the development of a Sub-Regional Transport Strategy and the Local Authorities will be leading the development of regional spatial strategies.

Councillor Barry Wood, Leader of Cherwell District Council has been nominated to head up the cross corridor leaders network (incorporating both Local Authorities and LEPs) and has drafted an initial governance proposal to provide oversight and guidance for the three interlinked work streams and to support dialogue with government. These proposals have only just been received, and all parties have been invited to present their feedback on these outline suggestions.

**Members are asked to :- Note the content of the update and consider the role BTVLEP can play in supporting the work of the APPG in delivering economic led growth for the corridor.**