

Business East Hants

Terms of Reference

Aim

To Develop, Improve and Promote Business Growth and Economic Prosperity in East Hampshire¹.

Purpose

To be the strategic and business lead partnership driving forward economic growth, business engagement and business support in East Hampshire.

Objectives

- Maintain and grow existing business in East Hampshire – both large and small.
- Attract and grow companies, both large and small including new business start-ups, which fit comfortably within the East Hampshire economy.
- Enhance the area's "Quality of Life" reputation to help retain local spend by businesses, residents and the public sector.
- Increase the quantity and quality of the local workforce.

The success measures to be applied to these Objectives, measured after 3 years and after 5 years from (2009), are attached.

Key Tasks

- Identify economic and business needs within East Hampshire and agree priorities for action.
- Gain the commitment from all partners, both public and private, to deliver an agreed action plan.
- Be responsible for the development and delivery of a detailed action plan, monitor progress and report outcomes.
- Inform and influence the policies and programmes of East Hampshire District Council, the East Hampshire Community Partnership and others to meet business and local economic needs.
- Improve the engagement of the whole business community in the achievement of Business East Hants' aim.

¹ As measured by an increase in the rate of change in Gross Value Added (GVA) over 5 years. Baseline 2007: GVA per head of population in £thousands (16.6) and Productivity GVA per person employed in £thousands (38.9).

Composition and Governance

- BEH is a business-led Steering Group and shall comprise at least six business people representative of the business make-up in East Hampshire plus East Hampshire District Council's (EHDC's) Economic Development Portfolio Holder.
- Relevant local publicly funded organisations such as Business Link, Learning & Skills Council (or its successor organisation) and Job Centre Plus will be invited to attend as non-voting members of the Group.
- Officers from the EHDC's Economic Development will resource, support, co-ordinate and advise the Group.
- The Steering Group shall elect the Chair and Vice-Chair from amongst the business membership of the Group. These positions may be held for up to 3 years.
- All voting Members have one vote. The Chair shall have a casting vote.
- The Steering Group will meet not less than 6 times a year. The Quorum for meetings shall be not less than 50% of the board at the date of the relevant meeting.