

Business East Hants Steering Group Chair

Business East Hants (BEH) sets out to be the strategic and business lead partnership driving forward economic growth, business engagement and business support in East Hampshire. Its aim is to develop, improve and promote business growth and economic prosperity in East Hampshire¹.

The BEH Steering Group is a business led group which is seeking to recruit a business person as Chair to lead it in achieving the objectives and key tasks as set out in the Terms of Reference (attached).

Chair's Role and Profile

Business East Hants is seeking to attract an individual with:

- Management experience at a senior level within an East Hampshire based company
- good strategic thinking skills, able to think beyond his/her own business/sector
- a willingness to provide the leadership and vision to lead the BEH Steering Group to achieve its aim and purpose and to deliver its objectives and key tasks and to facilitate discussion to ensure that a range of views are heard
- a willingness to be the public face of BEH
- an active interest in business, enterprise and sustainable development
- knowledge of the business community and/or a business sector in East Hampshire district
- strong communication skills
- a willingness to assist with the recruitment of business representatives to the Steering Group and encourage members to attend
- a willingness to be the BEH representative on relevant business, economic and community groups e.g. East Hants Tourism & Marketing Partnership, Local Strategic Partnership etc.

It is estimated that the time commitment will be two to three days per month for a period of around two years.

The level of involvement the Chair would have would depend on the time commitment he/she can give. Some of the jobs above could be given to other BEH members, possibly as local area 'champions'. Training would be available in e.g. leadership, chairing meetings etc., where required.

Full support will be provided by the Economic Development Officers from East Hampshire District Council (EHDC).

It is hoped that EHDC will grant financial resources to support delivery of the BEH Action Plan.

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).

Business East Hants

Terms of Reference (finalised January 2010)

Aim

To Develop, Improve and Promote Business Growth and Economic Prosperity in East Hampshire².

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 (add date), 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.

² 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.