

## **Terms of Reference**

### **Isle of Wight Business Alliance**

#### **Purpose:**

To represent the interests of the widest range of Isle of Wight businesses in relation to the economic development activities of the Isle of Wight Council (IWC), the Partnership for Urban South Hampshire (PUSH) and the Solent Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) and especially to identify and exploit opportunities to improve the economic well being of the Island.

#### **Objectives:**

- To deliver, promote and advance the Isle of Wight as a better place to invest, work, do business, visit and live;
- To advance and support the regeneration and economic well being of the Isle of Wight;
- To promote schemes, events and activities that increase the levels of new and additional investment in the Island;
- To ensure that the Island is able to effectively compete for development and improvement funds from all possible sources;
- To support the conservation, protection and improvement (where appropriate) of the physical and natural environment of the Island;
- To procure, promote or carry out any form of special events across the Island;

#### **Membership Structure:**

- The membership of the alliance shall be as shown below: -
  - 1 independent chair with an Island business background.
  - 2 business members nominated by the IW Chamber of Commerce Tourism and Industry (CCTI).
  - 2 business members nominated by the IW branch of the Federation of Small Businesses (FSB).
  - 3 business people trading on the IW (by election).
  - The IWC Cabinet Member with responsibility for the economy.
  - 1 representative from the IW College.
  - 1 representative from IW Health Services
  - The chair of the IW Employment and Skills Board.

- Those members of the Alliance nominated by representative bodies or elected by businesses in general will be expected to serve for a minimum of three years before seeking a renewed nomination / re-election.
- The independent chair will be expected to seek re-election every two years.
- In addition to the core membership, others may be invited to attend meetings on a one-off or for a limited period, in order that they might offer specific expertise or knowledge.
- Executive support for the Alliance will in the first instance be provided by the Isle of Wight Council.
- The Alliance will meet a minimum of four times a year. The timing of the meetings to be agreed annually in advance by the Chair.
- Each meeting will focus (in part) on a particular theme or topic. A programme of themes / topics to be discussed will be produced in advance to ensure that the full range of interests are covered (to be determined by the Board)

### **Member Recruitment**

- In the first instance the independent chair will be the current chair of the E&E Partnership Board (which the alliance will replace). Thereafter the Alliance will determine the process for the recruitment of the chair.
- The process for the appointment of the representatives from private business is to be determined.