

## Invitation for new Private Sector Board Members

Dear Applicant,

The Marches Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) is seeking expressions of interest for private sector non-executive Board Members to fill two vacancies on the LEP Board.

Please find attached the following documents:

- Advert for new Board members
- Duties and Responsibilities
- Person Specification
- Marches LEP Background Information

If you are interested in applying for one of these positions, please email me:

[gill.hamer@marcheslep.org.uk](mailto:gill.hamer@marcheslep.org.uk) with a copy of your most recent CV along with a 250-word summary of the type of actions you think need to be taken to develop the Marches economy. Our Strategic Economic Plan, LEP Board Terms of Reference and other key documents can be found at:  
[www.marcheslep.org.uk](http://www.marcheslep.org.uk)

At the Marches LEP we have established a first-class public/private partnership that approaches business growth and local regeneration in a positive and commercial manner. We are looking for Board members who will contribute to this and have a clear idea of how we can achieve our goals.

The closing date for applications is **12.00 pm on Thursday 15 March 2018**. If you are shortlisted for this position you will be invited to attend a panel interview on **11 April 2018**. If successful, the terms of service will formally commence May 2018 for a period of two years.

If you would like to have an informal conversation about the opportunity, please call me on 07990 086392.

Yours sincerely



Gill Hamer  
Marches LEP Director

## ADVERT

The Marches Local Enterprise Partnership is looking to recruit two new Board Members, with good local business networks, and ideally at a regional and national level as well, who will play a key role in helping us to drive economic growth in the area and provide effective governance to the public /private Partnership.

An ideal candidate will have commercial acumen, a good understanding of public/private partnership working and the ability to contribute to reaching agreement on complex issues that cut across service delivery of the public, private and voluntary and community sectors.

The Board is seeking individuals who would bring the following skills and experience:

- 16-18 years skills development / adult workforce skills development
- Business and Professional services – IT, finance, marketing
- Environmental Technologies sector

This is an exciting opportunity to make a considerable contribution to this Partnership which has moved into a mature phase, having developed an independent office, undertaken restructuring to maximise capacity through the recruitment of appropriate staff and is now geared to the delivery of a full programme of work.

There is no remuneration package associated with the posts however provisions are in place to cover appropriate minimum expenses incurred. The appointment will be for a two-year term and it is estimated that the post will require a commitment of up to two days per month. New members will be appointed by a panel which will be drawn from the Marches LEP stakeholders.

The Marches LEP encourages diversity to maximise achievements, good practice, innovation and impact and we welcome applications from everyone. Females and members of the BME community are currently under-represented on our Board and we therefore reflect a positive action approach, under the Equality Act 2010. Appointment will be on merit alone.

## DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

**Title:** Board Member

**Accountable to:** LEP Chairman

**Role Purpose:** To contribute to the further development of the Strategic Economic Plan for the Marches; including delivery of the Partnership's Work Programme and Forward Planning. Supporting the strategic development of the Partnership, ensuring it is fit for purpose, whilst adhering at all times to the [Marches LEPs conduct](#).

**Main Duties & Responsibilities:**

As a Board Member, you will:

1. Support the delivery of the vision, strategic objectives, targets, outputs and performance of the Marches Strategic Economic Plan.
2. Contribute knowledge, skills and experience to the Board's agenda, ensuring that key issues of strategy, economic and business planning, investment, delivery, compliance, and risk are addressed effectively and in a timely manner.
3. Attend Board meetings once every two months and general meetings, maintaining orderly conduct and making appropriate contribution. Strive to reach a consensus and complete any allocated actions.
4. Play a part in determining any appropriate sub-committees, to achieve full representation and effectiveness and contribute to such sub-committees as appropriate.
5. Take an ambassadorial role as required, publicly championing the aims of the Marches LEP, representing and promoting its aims at all appropriate levels including with key partners/stakeholders.
6. Work with senior business and political figures to achieve practical outcomes for the Partnership.
7. Ensure decisions are taken objectively and in the interests of the Partnership, accept joint responsibility for Board decisions.
8. Execute the responsibilities of the role according to lawful and ethical standards. Declare any personal, pecuniary or non-pecuniary interests.

## PERSON SPECIFICATION

Experience/Background	Essential/ Desirable
Minimum of 5 years' experience of managing a successful business within the private sector	E
Understanding of the public sector and previous experience of partnership working	E
Known within the local business community and /or local voluntary & community sector	D
Experience of working in the Marches and wider region	D
Knowledge/skills/abilities	
Working knowledge and skills in one or more of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>16-18 years skills development / adult workforce skills development</li> <li>Business and Professional services – IT, finance, marketing</li> <li>Environmental Technologies sector</li> </ul>	E
Commercial acumen	E
Ability to analyse and interpret information, reach conclusions and take appropriate action	E
Awareness of Corporate Governance	D
Resilience, diplomacy and influencing skills	D
Gravitas and confidence in public coupled with interpersonal skills and well-developed communication skills	D
Ability to reconcile different priorities and expectations from a range of organisations	E
Able to ensure the delivery of the Vision and Mission of the Partnership, upholding its values and standards of probity	E

<b>Other</b>	
Understanding of and commitment to equality of opportunity	E
Ability to devote sufficient time to the Partnership's business	E
Ability to be flexible to meet deadlines of the position	E
Affiliation with the Marches area	E

**Closing date for Applications:** 12.00pm 15 March 2018

**Interview date:** 11 April at the LEP Office, Shrewsbury

## THE MARCHES LOCAL ENTERPRISE PARTNERSHIP

### The Marches Area

With a business base as rich and diverse as its landscape, the Marches is a region where enterprise and innovation have long provided economic vitality and growth. At its heart is the global birthplace of industry, part of a heritage which has sparked a dynamic business region where innovative enterprises operate alongside land-based industries and entrepreneurs flourish alongside the global players which have chosen to base their operations here.

The Marches includes the unitary council areas of **Herefordshire, Shropshire and Telford & Wrekin**, home to more than 666,700 people, some 29,800 businesses and contributing £10bn to the national economy. Located in central England, it is bordered by the industrial heartland of the West Midlands to the east and Wales to the west and provides a strategic logistical gateway for European and UK businesses through to Welsh and Irish business markets. The historic city of Hereford, the Shropshire county town of Shrewsbury and the new town of Telford are the key centres of population and employment. With more than 25 market towns and many villages across its landscape, the Marches offers a unified trading area, based on common interests and a shared pride in business success.

### The Marches Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP)

Launched in 2010 with a remit of creating the conditions for economic growth, our LEP aims to deliver the vision for the Marches of *“A strong, diverse and enterprising business base, operating in an exceptional and connected environment, where the transfer of technology and skills foster innovation, investment and economic growth.”*

Our Strategic Economic Plan and Growth Deals have been focused upon achieving greater numbers of new, good quality jobs and houses and accelerating the pace of development through making substantial improvements to:

- Transport and broadband infrastructure
- New development sites for employment and housing
- Provision of training & workforce development and
- Access to Higher Education and opportunities for young people

The Partnership is working with Government and wider local and national partners to deliver on these priorities and to provide our businesses with opportunities to access finance and locally tailored business support, to encourage all our aspiring growth businesses to increase their productivity and promote innovation, and to encourage graduate retention and jobs for young people, while maximising the value of our natural and economic assets in an environmentally sustainable way.

### The Marches LEP Board

The Partnership is currently led by a 15 strong LEP Board, chaired by Graham Wynn OBE, a leading business figure and Chairman of TTC Group UK. The Board works closely with the three Area Business Boards for Herefordshire, Shropshire and Telford, the Chairs of which sit on the LEP Board. It seeks to maximise the range of local networks and support organisations that exist to ensure fully representative engagement with local business, whilst keeping the executive function small to aid timely and effective decision making.



Current Board membership is as follows:

Sector	Name	Job Title and Organisation
<b>Private Sector Chair</b>	Graham Wynn OBE	Owner of a portfolio of businesses
<b>3 Area Business Board Chairs</b>	Frank Myers MBE	Business Owner
	Mandy Thorn MBE	Vice Chair of LEP & Business Owner
	Paul Hinkins	Vice Chair of LEP & Business Owner
<b>Hereford Enterprise Zone</b>	Andrew Manning Cox	Chair of Hereford Enterprise Zone
<b>Food and Drink</b>	Dr David Llewellyn	Vice Chancellor Harper Adams University
<b>Community &amp; Voluntary Sector</b>	Sonia Roberts	Charity Manager, Landau
<b>Financial/Professional Services/IT /Environmental sector</b>	Vacant	
<b>Housing</b>	Peter Brown	Chief Executive of Connexus
<b>Skills Champion</b>	Prof. Ian Oakes	Deputy Vice Chancellor, University of Wolverhampton
<b>16-18 Skills &amp; Workforce Development</b>	Vacant	
<b>Manufacturing &amp; Large Employer</b>	Duncan Varnes	Site Operations Director - Telford, GKN Auto Structures Ltd
<b>3 Local Authority Leaders</b>	Cllr Tony Johnson	Leader of Herefordshire Council
	Cllr Peter Nutting	Leader of Shropshire Council
	Cllr Shaun Davies	Leader of Telford and Wrekin Council