**Stoke-on-Trent & Staffordshire LEP Covid-19 Taskforce Group**

**SSLEP Covid-19 Economy & Business Taskforce Terms of Reference**

**Purpose**

The SSLEP Covid-19 Taskforce Group will:

1. Provide strategic oversight of local economic conditions across the LEP area:
2. considering all relevant & current business data to provide an ‘outlook’/position statement for the LEP economy (*includes the extensive data secured for the LIS*)
3. identifying the economic implications for SSLEP urban and rural economies
4. Oversee the feedback of data to government departments, ensuring the following is highlighted:
5. key areas of concern, priority and opportunity relating to SSLEP strategic businesses, specific sectors & supply chains
6. feedback from the business community relating to delivery of the Government’s initiatives
7. Contribute effectively to national & regional fora in presenting SSLEP’s local economic conditions, concerns, needs and priorities and, where appropriate, progress actions which benefit the regional economy as a whole.
8. Provide strategic oversight of economic recovery planning for the LEP area:
9. consider the potential range of key interventions that would benefit the LEP area, as a whole and look to action these as necessary
10. draft the overarching SSLEP Covid Recovery Plan which best achieves a return to the new ‘normality’ as soon as practical and which:

* takes into account actions being taken by Government Departments, SSLEP Local Authorities, the Chambers of Commerce, the Federation of Small Businesses & our universities; and
* provides an effective vehicle in driving the long-term ambitions of the SSLEP, set out in the local industrial strategy.

1. Convene effective groupings of contributing partners to refine and deliver identified tasks within the recovery plan.
2. Provide assistance to members of the partnership wherever possible.
3. Coordinate the mobilisation of the business community in supporting the Covd-19 Taskforce response and Recovery Plan.

**Meeting Representation & Attendance**

* Alun Rogers SSLEP Chair (Taskforce Chair)
* James Leavesley SSLEP Vice-Chair (Taskforce Deputy Chair)
* Abi Brown, Stoke-on-Trent City Council Leader
* Jo Rouse, Stoke-on-Trent City Council, City Director
* Patrick Farrington, Stafford Borough Council, Leader
* Tim Clegg, Stafford Borough Council, Chief Executive
* Philip Atkins, Staffordshire County Council, Leader
* John Henderson, Staffordshire County Council, Chief Executive
* Andrea Whitworth, Assistant Director CLGU, BEIS
* Phil Higginson, service Leaders for Staffordshire & Derbyshire, DWP

SSLEP Officers J Casey/Sam Hicks

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