

Business Board Member Role Description and Specification



About the Board

Opportunity South Essex (OSE) is a private-public partnership whose vision is for South Essex to have one of the fastest growing and most sustainable economies in the UK, providing opportunities for businesses, attractive for inward investors and benefit local communities.

We have a strong relationship with the South Essex local authorities, who are Basildon Council, Castle Point Borough Council, Essex County Council, Rochford District Council, Southend on Sea Council and Thurrock Council. We are one of the four federated boards of the South East Local Enterprise Partnership (for further information see www.southeastlep.com) and play a key role in the Thames Estuary.

OSE has established an influential position in relation to local and regional growth. We have a strong track record in securing investment, working productively across a range of partners, lobbying for investment to unlock opportunities and providing a single clear voice for South Essex.

The Role

Members are collectively able to input to and make key decisions which influence the South Essex Economy. Members of the board will bring their specialist experience, expertise and knowledge to help to create a vibrant economy across South Essex. These specialisms include (but are not limited to) infrastructure, skills, industry, innovation, productivity and wellbeing. As a member it is essential that you are able to see the bigger economic picture and are keen to offer your advice and make decisions on topics which may not always directly impact on the day to day work of your business but will ultimately benefit the wider productivity of South Essex.

Responsibilities of Business Members

- Support and influence the economic growth agenda in and around South Essex.
- Actively contribute to the development of working groups and networks to ensure engagement of the wider business community.
- Act as an ambassador, promote and champion the work of OSE from the perspective of business.
- Contribute knowledge and expertise to illuminate the business issues facing the area, the strengths and opportunities and the initiatives which could be taken to drive business growth.
- Actively participate in quarterly Board meetings (these meetings are typically 2 hours in duration). During Board meetings members will input into discussions from a business perspective, offer advice and assist in overall strategic planning for the South Essex economy.
- Engage with the secretariat between meetings to offer advice, drive activity and progress the ambitions of the Board.
- Vote on key decisions, including matters where the board makes a recommendation or adopt an approach.
- Take an active role in OSE's task and finish groups, which may include chairing and reporting back updates to the OSE Board.

The Person

- A confident and articulate business leader who can take a strategic view in understanding and influencing the economic growth agenda.
- A connection to, or affinity with, the South Essex. It is desirable for you to have an established reputation and public profile/network of contacts within South Essex which directly relate to the ambitions of the region.
- Enthusiasm for driving forward the South Essex economy.
- Integrity, transparency and accountability.
- Knowledge of the key opportunities and/or challenges facing South Essex businesses and economy with ideas for how to achieve success.
- Ability to work effectively as a member of a team in which colleagues work cooperatively with each other, accepting collective responsibility.

Remuneration

The post is not remunerated.