**ADEPT East of England Board meeting 29 January 2019**

The East of England Board held a workshop to consider the involvement of local authorities in emerging Local Industrial Strategies. Lauren Stephenson from BEIS /MHCLG Cities and Growth Unit set out the Government context and the approach. She gave a really strong steer around co-production with sign off by both the LEP and government; the underpinning evidence base and good prioritisation. She also confirmed that all LIS are due for publication by early 2020 and 1st wave LIS will be completed by May 2019. The LGA is now offering support to councils wanting to get more involved in the development of LIS – for more details please click [here](https://local.gov.uk/local-industrial-strategies). South East Midlands LEP as part of the Oxford-Cambridge Arc is a LIS trailblazer and we were able to hear a real example of what has gone well and could be done better. Neil Hayes gave an overview of what Hertfordshire LEP are doing and some of the emerging insights.

There was a good debate of what the process felt like and we were also able to feed back to Lauren some of our key thoughts:

* Making sure that future funding rounds aren’t all about competitive bidding
* Wanting to see join up across Whitehall and engagement from key departments such as the Department for Education on the learning and skills agenda
* Looking at the joining up across LEP geographies and recognising other broader geographies such as the emerging Sub-National Transport Board

The next meeting of the Board will be in September.

**Laura Church**

**Chair**