

Enterprise M3 Joint Leaders Board

Notes of a meeting of the Joint Leaders Board held on Wednesday 21 March at Guildhall, Guildford

Present:

Councillor Clive Sanders	Basingstoke & Deane Borough Council (Chair)
Mel Barrett	Basingstoke & Deane Borough Council
Andrea Rich	Basingstoke & Deane Borough Council (Minutes)
Matthew Evans	Basingstoke & Deane Borough Council (Speaker)
Cllr Richard Millard	East Hants District Council
Sandy Hopkins	East Hants and Havant Borough Council
Kathy Slack	Enterprise M3
Dave Axam	Enterprise M3
Jude Robinson	Enterprise M3
Cllr Paul Spooner	Guildford Borough Council
James Whiteman	Guildford Borough Council
Cllr Keith Mans	Hampshire County Council
Stuart Jarvis	Hampshire County Council
Katie Bailey	Hart District Council
Cllr Barry Rickman	New Forest District Council
Cllr Michael Harris	New Forest District Council
Paul Turrell	Runnymede Borough Council
Cllr David Clifford	Rushmoor Borough Council
Karen Edwards	Rushmoor Borough Council
Cllr Tony Harman	Spelthorne Borough Council
Daniel Mouawad	Spelthorne Borough Council
Terry Collier	Spelthorne Borough Council
Cllr Moria Gibson	Surrey Heath Borough Council
Karen Whelan	Surrey Heath Borough Council
Roger Tetstall	Test Valley Borough Council
Cllr Julia Potts	Waverley Borough Council
Tom Horwood	Waverley Borough Council
Laura Taylor	Winchester City Council
Cllr David Bittleston	Woking Borough Council
Ray Morgan	Woking Borough Council

Apologies were submitted from:

Cllr Ferris Cowper	East Hants District Council
Cllr Stuart Selleck	Elmbridge Borough Council
Cllr Roy Perry	Hampshire County Council
Cllr David Neighbour	Hart District Council
Paul Shackley	Rushmoor Borough Council
Cllr David Hodge	Surrey County Council
Cllr John Furey	Surrey County Council
Cllr Caroline Horrill	Winchester City Council

1 Introductions

- 1.1 Cllr Clive Sanders welcomed all to the meeting and apologies were noted as above.

2 Welcome from Cllr Spooner, Leader of Guildford Borough Council

- 2.1 Councillor Paul Spooner provided an introduction to the meeting as host, including a brief history to Guildford Guildhall and presented a video with key facts and figures about the borough of Guildford which was noted with interest.

3 Minutes of the Previous Meeting

- 3.1 The minutes of the meeting held on 18 January 2018 were approved.

4 Enterprise M3 Update

- 4.1 The Joint Leaders' Board referred to the letter from the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy containing the outcome of the EM3 LEP Annual Conversation. This was an excellent result in that it showed we are at the top of a small Group with an outcome of overall good performance, with many exceptional features. In particular areas were scored as below:
- Governance: considered to be exception
 - Delivery: considered to be good
 - Strategy – considered to be exceptional
- 4.2 All improvement recommendations within the letter have already been actioned and this provided significant possibilities for us to unlock ambitious funds we want to actively pursue.
- 4.3 Kathy Slack provided a presentation with an EM3 update. Key points highlighted detailed below:
- 57% spent on delivery and this is due to rise to 83% at year end.
 - Delivery headlines as a result of what's been happening on projects. We are doing big things with strategy, with the implementation of the Industrial Strategy which will involve working cross boundary.
 - Growth fund projects for 2018/19 on which we are looking for delivery this year. Kathy asked the EM3 Joint Leaders Board (JLB) to consider projects for the future which in particular link to the Industrial Strategy. The deadline for consideration of further projects was 7 April 2018.
 - Growth Hub - with an excellent evaluation report more work needs to be undertaken on scale up plans.
 - Enterprise Zones - we are moving ahead and delivered five key projects on which we can start to earn business rates and recoup for the next 25 years.

- 4.4 Kathy Slack informed the meeting that Rachel Barker will be leaving at the end of May to commence maternity leave. Kathy requested maternity cover ideas from the EM3 JLB and will circulate a document around advertisement for the post.
- 4.5 Councillor David Clifford commented on the good working relationship of the EM3 LEP and the proven positive benefits this brings and the EM3 JLB were extremely pleased at the excellent outcome of its performance review.
- 4.6 Laura Taylor asked that bearing in mind at this point in time the EM3 LEP have spent 57% of its funding towards the delivery of capital projects, she questioned what processes were in place to ensure that money continues to be spent and not lost in the round. Kathy advised that the unspent funding is not given back to Government, processes are in place to review where money is allocated and where it stands and to look at projects not able to deliver within the financial year and move back or potentially out of the project altogether. Tough discussions will be taking place over the next year and authorities should talk to the LEP if it is experiencing difficulties with time tabling. David Axa advised that the Programme Management Group also have an overview on spend, however the Government message is that if it provides funding, it expects to see it in action, however this is flexible and can be manoeuvred.
- 4.7 Stuart Jarvis alluded to the recent liquidation of Carillion which had caused problems for some authorities and could be an issue going forward in the industrial area. Kathy advised that we should aim for projects to meet the criteria in the prospectus, the key being deliverability and links to economy and the Industrial Strategy. Councillor Sanders said that there is a need for vigilance on budgets so that the LEP is ready to react with good and open exchanges on the progress with projects. The EM3 Board will discuss next week to ensure that processes are in places to ensure projects are moving at pace. Councillor Manns said that better links between projects should be in place to ensure that those allocated money and those who use it are taking account of delivery. Councillor Sanders explained that the recent reorganisation within the LEP will assist with this.
- 4.8 Katy Slack agreed to circulate a note on funding streams and opportunities which the EM3 JLB could take advantage of and this will also include a reminder on the type of things and rules applied for European bids.

5 Future Funding Opportunities Workshop

- 5.1 David Axa provided an overview of his working background as South East Regional Director of British Telecom, he will be leaving this position this month.
- 5.2 David provided a presentation with an update on the Industrial Strategy. He explained where we were in the process, our emerging priorities and wished to float thoughts to the JLB around the next steps which need to be taken.
- 5.3 David said that the Strategic Plan needs to be fit for purpose being aware of the Government's focus going forward to re-shape the Strategic Plan and morph it into the Industrial Strategy. He said that the Industrial Strategy was essential for unlocking things further down the line.

- 5.4 Discussion took place amongst the EM3 JLB on the importance of speaking with a single voice backed by strong evidence, alongside clear ambition and set of actions that we can take to government and potential investors was emphasised. The growth ambition to achieve 4% GVA growth per annum to 2030 was acknowledged as challenging and something which was crucial for the EM3 JLB to shape going forward.
- 5.5 The EM3 JLB agreed the next steps would be for Kathy Slack to set up a half day workshop as the next stage of developing the local industrial strategy and the EM3 JLB be invited to attend. This would help scope out critical interventions that are needed for our economy and which look to the future, show our ambition and build the case of investment. Timeframe for the workshop would be in May to allow a period of time to look at our ambitions for the LEP review which would be complete by Summer recess 2018 and which we can then pitch to Government.
- 5.6 Jude Robinson is explained that she is pulling together maps as part of the evidence base and which she will circulate. In particular she sought commentary back from the JLB on what things might look like, where are people going to be ambitious with where key infrastructure areas are to be focused in the future.

6 Joint Leaders Board Nominations to the Enterprise M3 Board

- 6.1 Councillor Sanders reminded the JLB of the vacancy for a Hampshire District representative on the Enterprise M3 Board. He advised the EM3 JLB that he had received one nomination for the vacancy from Councillor David Clifford, this had been proposed and seconded by Winchester City Council and Test Valley Borough Council. The EM3 JLB agreed to elect Councillor David Clifford to the Enterprise M3 Board.

7 Proposed Changes to the National Planning and Policy Framework (NNPF)

- 7.1 Matthew Evans (Head of Planning and Infrastructure, Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council) attended to provide a presentation on the government consultation which is taking place on proposed changes to the National Planning and Policy Framework and reforming developer contributions. The consultation will run from 10 May 2018 and the revised National Planning and Policy Framework will be in place by Summer 2018. Changes being made were heavily influenced by the government's desire to increase the delivery of housing. Matthew provided an overview of the areas of proposed changes below:

- Achieving sustainable development
- Plan making
- Delivering sufficient supply of housing, including affordable homes
- Developer contributions
- Decision Making

- Making effective use of land
- Achieving well-designed places

- 7.2 The meeting considered this an excellent comprehensive summary and discussed the proposed impacts of the changes in detail. In particular the meeting noted the emphasis on design quality through the use of design guides and codes. The Group requested that a copy of the presentation be distributed to all which will be actioned by Andrea Rich on behalf of the Chair of the group.
- 7.3 The Group noted that some Local Authorities would see their assessment of housing need increased as a consequence of the new standard approach proposed in the NPPF.
- 7.4 It was agreed that that there was an opportunity for the LEP to broker an approach going forward to deliver new housing and secure the necessary infrastructure funding. This could be similar to the Cambridgeshire and Oxfordshire growth corridor, with local authorities taking a coordinated approach to delivering growth by working together on a spatial plan or memo of understanding, to underpin funding bids to government. It would be necessary to identify targeted areas for growth within the LEP M3 area which are likely be larger than currently defined housing market areas.
- 7.5 The Chair requested that the LEP put forward a proposal to take this forward. The Chair advised that the Group talk with its own Cabinet/Members to agree to a commitment to cooperate. Kathy highlighted the relationship with the Industrial Strategy. Kathy agreed that she would work with a couple of Chief Executives and would bring forward a proposal on how it might work and bring forward to the next meeting. Kathy will circulate a paper in advance of the next meeting in order for Leaders to discuss within their councils to gain political support.

8 Future Meetings

- 8.1 It was agreed that Spelthorne Borough Council would host the meeting scheduled for Wednesday 18 July 2018 at a venue to be confirmed.