



**Enterprise M3 Extraordinary Board Meeting**

**27 June 2016, 2.00 – 5.00pm**

**Institute for Communications Systems, University of Surrey, Guildford, Surrey, GU2 7XH**

**MINUTES**

**Board in Attendance**

Geoff French - Chair  
Dave Axam  
Tim Colman  
James Cretney  
Nick Elphick  
Moira Gibson  
Tim Jackson  
Andrew Lambert  
Keith Mans  
Malcolm Parry  
Louise Punter  
Clive Sanders  
Mike Short  
Paul Spooner

**Guests in Attendance**

Kathy Slack  
Tanja Aijo  
Sarah Carter  
Lucy Crabtree  
Pam Jones  
Jude Robinson  
Kevin Travers  
Kathy Vuillaume  
Deborah Wyatt  
Justine Davie

**Apologies**

David Barnes  
Andy Barr  
Ferris Cowper  
Zoe Gray  
Peter Martin  
Chris Tinker

**1. Welcome and Introductions**

1.1 Geoff French welcomed everyone to the meeting.

**2. Declarations of Interest**

2.1 In addition to all interests previously declared, the following interests were noted:

- Tim Jackson declared an interest in the Risual Microsoft Academy project and left the room during the decision making.

**3. Implications of BREXIT and impact on Local Growth Deal 3**

3.1 Kathy Slack advised the Board that Enterprise M3 had issued a statement and written to stakeholders following the Brexit vote emphasising the role of the LEP within business and communities, and provided a contact point for all enquiries. Tom Walker from the Cities and Local Growth Unit had asked for all LEPs to feedback to Government any local intelligence gathered. It would take a while to understand the full impact of the Brexit vote.

3.2 Early indications showed that the growth deal process would continue, the snapshot had been submitted on 23 June and the ministerial challenge would be taking place on 21 July. Changes could be required to the focus of the challenge session in light of the Brexit vote.

3.3 There was currently €50m (£35.5m) of EU funds managed by Government with priorities and calls for projects developed by the LEP. Enterprise M3 had over £13m out in calls with several projects ready to go to contract. It was not yet clear what impact the Brexit vote would have on the EU funds already allocated as the programme was committed for a period of 7-

years from 2014-2020. It was important for the LEP to push Government to press ahead with contracting to get as much funding out to businesses as possible.

- 3.4 An action plan would be developed to support businesses should the area enter any periods of low growth. Work would be carried out with the Growth Hub and other business support organisation to compile and share local intelligence. Board members were requested to feed any intelligence on impacts of the Brexit vote to Jude Robinson. Information gathered would be shared with Board members.

Action to be taken	By Whom	When
Feed local intelligence relating to impact of the Brexit vote to Jude Robinson	All	July 2016
Share information gathered with Board members	Jude Robinson	August 2016

#### 4. Local Growth Fund 3 – Update

- 4.1 The Board was updated on the progress with the Local Growth Fund 3 (LGF3) bid since the previous meeting and following the Joint Leaders Board (JLB) on 21 June and Programme Management Group (PMG) meeting on 22 June. The feedback from both JLB and PMG had been incorporated into the snapshot which had been finalised and submitted to Government. The bid had been increased from £150m to £164m to reflect the proportion of growth deal funding that would have come to Enterprise M3 if earlier funding had been allocated based on the size of the business population.
- 4.2 The challenge session would be taking place on 21 July and Geoff French, Kathy Slack, Cllr Clive Sanders and Dave Axam would be attending to represent the Enterprise M3 LEP. The final bid document had to be submitted by midday on Thursday 28 July. The bid would include a narrative showcasing successes to date and plans for the future, together with a list of top projects that would make up the bid for LGF3. A detailed spreadsheet was required to be submitted with the bid listing the projects in order of priority.
- 4.3 The Board discussed the options for the projects to be included in the bid to increase the total request to £164m and they types of projects that should be at the top of the priority list. It was suggested that the final document should include information on export, productivity, green environment and ability to influence and should demonstrate continuity and how the projects would build on investment already in place. It was also agreed that housing should feature in the higher priority projects. The Enterprise M3 Team would work on the priority list of projects which would be reported the PMG meeting on 11 July. Meetings with MP’s would help identify what was important to ministers and Board members were asked to let Kathy Slack know if they had any meetings set up with MPs or would be willing to meet with MPs.
- 4.4 There was very little time between the challenge session and submission of the bid document but the final version would be amended as far as possible to address the issues raised at the challenge session. It was suggested that a rehearsal for the challenge session should be carried out to ensure those attending were fully prepared.

Action to be taken	By Whom	When
Inform Kathy Slack of any meetings with MPs	All	30 June
Set up a rehearsal for the challenge session	Kathy Slack	20 July

#### 5. Local Growth Fund Project for Early Approval

##### Risual Microsoft Academy from Sparsholt College

- 5.1 The Board received a report on the Risual Microsoft Academy project submitted by Sparsholt College as part of the Local Growth Fund 3 expressions of interest. The aim of the project was to establish a Microsoft Academy within a land based college providing specific digital skills to rural and land based businesses. Sparsholt College would work in partnership with

Risual Education and Microsoft to develop a state of the art IT suite with the latest Microsoft Surface technologies. The total project cost was £394,450, with a LGF request of £207,050.

- 5.2 The project received a 'light touch' due diligence assessment undertaken by the Enterprise M3 Project Management Team as it was for a relatively small amount of funding. The project was assessed as being highly deliverable with a proposed completion date in October 2016. The value for money was excellent and the project attracted revenue investment from Risual Education to support a Business Liaison post.
- 5.3 The Programme Management Group discussed the proposal and agreed it was a good project and recommended to the Board that the project be approved, but it was requested that the match funding ratio was increased to 50%. It was also requested that projects of such a low value should only be brought forward for funding when a strong case was put forward.
- 5.4 The Board agreed that £207,050 of grant expenditure from LGF be approved for the Risual Microsoft Academy project.

Action to be taken	By Whom	When
Progress the Risual Microsoft Academy project to contracting.	Sarah Carter	July 2016

6. **Any Other Business**

- 6.1 The future Enterprise M3 Board meetings would be held on
- Tuesday 26 July, 2016 – Carey’s Manor, Brockenhurst
  - Thursday 29 September, 2016 – Sandown Park Racecourse, Esher
  - Tuesday 29 November, 2016 – venue TBC
  - Tuesday 31 January, 2017 – venue TBC
  - Tuesday 28 March, 2017 – venue TBC