

Enterprise M3 Board

28 March 2017

Enterprise M3 Governance – Item 14

Enterprise M3 Board is asked to:

NOTE the recent work on Board Member recruitment

NOTE the verbal update by the Chair of the Nominations Committee following the meeting on 28 March 2017.

AGREE the appointment of a new Chair for the Land and Property Action Group

1. Background

- 1.1 In recent months, the Board has received a number of papers relating to issues of Enterprise M3 governance, transparency and accountability. These areas remain a key area of focus for the LEP and its partners (including central government) and this paper summarises recent work, updating the Board on key areas of activity and seeking agreement to the appointment of a new Chair for the Land and Property Action Group.
- 1.2 The Nominations Committee will be overseeing work relating to the recruitment of new Board Members and increasing the diversity of our Board and a verbal update on progress will be given at the Board Meeting.

2. Board Member Recruitment

- 2.1 Board Members will be aware that we advertised for new business board members in February 2017, promoting the vacancies through our networks. At the closing date on 10 March 2017, we had received 12 applications from people interested in joining the Enterprise M3 Board. We have also had several interested candidates contact us after the deadline and this, in conjunction with the work of the Nominations Committee, now means that we are starting to build a strong pipeline of individuals who may wish to work with us in the future.
- 2.2 The quality of the applications received has been very high and Geoff French, Mike Short and Kathy Slack will be interviewing seven candidates in April 2017. We then hope that any newly appointed Board Members will be able to join the Board at the meeting in May 2017. Board Members will be notified of successful candidates in the weekly update.
- 2.3 In addition the recruitment of new business board members, the Nominations Committee has also overseen a tender exercise to appoint an executive search agency to work alongside us in the search for a new Chair of the Board. As a result of this, Hays Executive Ltd were recently appointed and it is anticipated that the advertisement will 'go live' on 8 April 2017, with the aim of a new Chair being in place by July 2017. The Nominations Committee will be meeting in advance of the Board Meeting on 28 March 2017 and a verbal update on the progress of this work will be given at the Board Meeting. Further progress updates will be given in the weekly update in the lead up to the date of the advertisement.

3. Land and Property Action Group – appointment of a new Chair

- 3.1 After 5 years in post, Malcolm Young indicated his wish to step down as Chair of the Land and Property Action Group in 2017 and his last meeting was in January. Enterprise M3 has recently gone through a process of asking for expressions of interest for this role and Michael Knott has offered to take on the role for a period of three years. Michael is a Director at Barton Willmore, based in Reading and works extensively across the Enterprise M3 area and has been a member of the Land and Property Action Group for 3 years. The Land and Property Action Group have confirmed that they support this appointment and the Board is now asked to formally agree the appointment of a new Chair for the Land and Property Action Group.

Rachel Barker
19 March 2017