

**Enterprise M3 Board Meeting**

**26 September 2019**

**A Local Industrial Strategy for the EM3 Area – Item 10**

Enterprise M3 Board is asked to:

**NOTE:** Progress and the next steps in the development of the local industrial strategy (LIS)

**1. Background**

- 1.1 The Board agreed that detailed development work for the LIS would focus on nine long term strategic priorities for the area which were set out in detail in the ‘Developing Our Approach’ document issued at the time of the AGM. Further evidence gathering is focusing on addressing the identified lines of enquiry particularly on the performance of our towns, on skills and employment, on the strength of our science and innovation ecosystem and priority sectors and on the low carbon sector.
- 1.2 Whilst there is inevitably uncertainty about whether the full original intentions for local industrial strategies will be affected by changes in Government policy, at the moment there is no indication of any significant change and the message from officials is to continue with the work as planned and to the original timetable. The update used as part of the mid-year review is attached.
- 1.3 The major staging post coming up in November is the submission of a detailed evidence base to a panel of government analysts. The strategies are not bidding documents, but they should give a clear steer about the kinds of interventions which would give them effect and could be supported through future spending programmes.

<b>Assemble</b> Summer/Autumn	Complete the evidence base and develop the front end of the strategy and the associated interventions.	Agree the evidence base with analyst panel. Developing a compelling narrative for the future of the EM3 area.
<b>Agree</b> Winter	Negotiate with Government.	Agreeing the narrative and the interventions to be included in the strategy
<b>Publish</b> Early 2020	Issue and promote the Strategy.	Fully designed communications.

- 1.4 The Action Groups, particularly the Skills and Talent Action Group, Transport, Innovation and Enterprise; and the Land and Property are helping to steer and develop some of the themes (skills, smart mobility, people, innovation, towns and housing).
- 1.5 For the next Board meeting there will be a developed outline of the strategy and the associated interventions that might be promoted. These are being tested with stakeholders over the coming months.

**2. Conclusion/Recommendation**

- 2.1 The Board is asked to note the approach set out in this paper for the development of the LIS.

Kevin Lloyd  
 Local Industrial Strategy Lead  
 16 September 2019

## ANNEX: MID YEAR REVIEW

**Main Message:** We are in regular contact with you to make sure you are fully sighted on our plans and we are confident about being able to agree our strategy with you early next year.

### Supporting Points:

- We **launched our LIS approach** at our AGM setting out our major priority issues and have run an initial social media campaign to stimulate further engagement.
- We are well underway with a **storyline for our LIS** which we discussed with our Board and will keep developing it with them and with other groupings including our Joint Leaders Board and Chief Executives Group.
- We are underway with the detailed preparation of **our evidence base** and will be bringing on board some additional external expertise to help us hone it further building on the substantial amount of material underpinning our SEP. We are working to be ready for an expert panel in November.
- We have got a number of pieces of **specific evidence work underway** which are starting to report and some more to come soon including on **skills** and on the performance of our **towns**.
- We are commissioning some further examination of how we can strengthen our **science and innovation** ecosystem – there will be an input from this work for the evidence base.
- We are also commissioning a major piece of work around better understanding our opportunities to promote **clean growth and the low carbon sector**.
- Our work on **5G and digital connectivity continues apace**. We are working with some experts in the field alongside our local authorities and some providers on how best to promote enhanced connectivity and with the Connected Places Catapult learning network on some of the major questions associated with 5G roll out
- We are working with 3 other LEPs on **Natural Capital**.
- We are establishing an **expert panel** plus testing our work as we proceed with business.
- On **governance** we already engaging our Joint Leaders Board (all EM3 leaders and CE) and their bi-monthly meetings are built around the LIS themes.
- We are also developing a series of **propositions/projects** which would support the ambitions in our LIS so that we are ready to put it into practice.