

Enterprise M3 Programme Management Group

16 August 2019, 13:00-14:00

Telephone Conference

MINUTES

Members Attending

James Cretney - Chair
Richard Brooks
Rob Carr
David Fletcher
Matt Furniss
Rob Humby
Paul Millin
Kathy Slack

Guests Attending

Rachel Barker
Sue Littlemore
Jeannie Satchell
Geoff Wells
Justine Davie

Apologies

Deborah Allen
Dave Axam
Mike D'Alton
Catherine Turner

1. Welcome and Introductions

1.1 James Cretney welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. Declaration of Interest

2.1 There were no further interests in addition to those declared previously.

3. Capital Project for Consideration

a) Health Tech Accelerator

3.1 The Group considered a report setting out additional details on the Health Tech Accelerator project which had been previously discussed at the July meeting. The application had been submitted from Surrey and Borders Partnership NHS Foundation Trust (SABP) for £1.688m grant funding to establish a Health Tech Accelerator (HTA). The HTA would help SMEs develop products, services and processes to be fast tracked into public and private health markets. The HTA would be a collaboration between industry, academia, health & care services and importantly patients and carers.

3.2 The in-kind match-funding had been discussed at the previous meeting and further details were requested to clarify what the funding would be used for, over what period and how could the project be sustained in the longer-term. The Group was advised that the match funding would be provided by a number of partners equivalent to £2.1m. SABP had confirmed in writing detailed information on the resource contributed by each partner which included technology hardware, staffing of the engineering design laboratory and the digital health ward and staff to run SME engagement. SABP also emphasised that the staffing was a real resource and that the outputs did not form part of the existing work of any of the staff. SABP had made a firm commitment in writing to operate the HTA programme until 2025 with an ambition to run the programme longer. Work was underway to explore potential future investment options. SABP was of the view that the capital investment from Enterprise M3 would help to provide confidence to other potential investors going forward.

3.3 The Group discussed the project and were satisfied with the additional detail provided by SABP. It was agreed that the commitment to operate to 2025 would be included in the legal agreement.

Representation from Enterprise M3 LEP on the steering group would also be requested to input into the longer-term sustainability of the programme. The Group agreed to approve £1.688m capital grant funding to the Surrey and Borders Partnership NHS Foundation Trust for the Health Tech Accelerator programme.

Action to be taken	By Whom	When
Proceed the Health Tech Accelerator programme to contract.	Sue Littlemore	September 2019

b) Innovation South Virtual Campus – Update on Progress

- 3.4 The Group considered a report which set out some changes to the Innovation South Virtual Campus (ISVC) project which had been approved to proceed to due diligence in January 2019. The scheme promoter had changed from Brooklands College to Sparsholt College following staff changes at Brooklands. Brooklands had also advised that they were no longer able to be part of the ISVC project as there were a number of changes taking place at Brooklands. This would leave Royal Holloway, Sparsholt College and Basingstoke College of Technology now taking the project forward. The project costs would remain the same however there would be a 25% reduction in outputs following the withdrawal of Brooklands College.
- 3.5 The Group discussed the changes and the opportunity for Brooklands to rejoin the project at a later date. It was agreed that if the pilot was successful, all colleges and universities in the Enterprise M3 area would be engaged with to try to roll out the project more widely. The Group noted the changes and agreed that a paper should be submitted for consideration at the September PMG meeting.

Action to be taken	By Whom	When
Submit a paper seeking approval for funding of the Innovation South Virtual Campus project to the September PMG meeting	Jeannie Satchell	12 September 2019

4. New Expressions of Interest

- 4.1 The Group considered a paper which provided an update on the current capital funding position and provided details on the new expressions of interest (EOIs) received by the 27 June deadline. The Group was advised that there was currently no available funding to allocate to new projects however it was possible that some projects progressing through business case and due diligence may not proceed as planned. Therefore, work was continuing to strengthen the pipeline of projects to ensure there were high quality proposals ready should further funding become available. Four EOIs were received by the June deadline, three new projects and one resubmission.
- 4.2 Two of the projects were assessed as category A with a total value of £4.1m. East Hampshire District Council submitted an EOI with a funding request of £3.76m, 50% loan, 50% grant, against a total project cost of £19.2m. The project was the first stage in a strategy to develop an advanced manufacturing and technology corridor. The LEP funding would contribute towards the acquisition of the land, formation of a new access and construction costs for incubation space. The second category A project was Launch Space submitted by Basingstoke College of Technology. The funding request was £300k grant funding sought for a total project cost of £612k. Launch Space was a tech-rich teaching and learning facility at Basingstoke College of Technology which would provide in-demand workplace skills. It would provide a suite of six highly connected and digitally enhanced rooms equipped with an array of cutting-edge technology, operated by experts in digital learning.
- 4.3 Two projects were ranked as category B with a total value of £2.6m. Both projects had the potential to develop and move to category A but further work was required. Kathy Slack and Jeannie Satchell would be meeting with Havant and South Downs College to advise them on the areas of the application that needed further work before it could progress. Rachel Barker

had already met with Wey Estates and they were considering the option to submit a loan request or potentially fund an element of the work themselves.

- 4.4 The Group discussed the EOIs and agreed with the categorisations. There was some discussion on the reputational damage to the LEP by developing a pipeline of project when there was no funding available. It was agreed that there needed to be a dialogue with applicants to make it clear that funding was not currently available and provide assistance to seek funding elsewhere if possible. It was noted that some partners were prepared to proceed at risk. The development of a pipeline of projects and potential future funding availability would be raised with Government at the mid-year review on 13 September. The Group agreed for the East Hants Invest for Growth project to proceed to business case and Launch Space to proceed to due diligence.

Action to be taken	By Whom	When
Advise East Hants District Council to submit a business case for the East Hants Invest for Growth project.	Rachel Barker	August 2019
Proceed the Launch Space at Basingstoke College of Technology project to due diligence.	Jeannie Satchell	August 2019
Raise the issue of future funding and development of a pipeline of projects with Government at the mid-year review.	Rachel Barker/ Kathy Slack	13 September 2019

5. **Dates of Future Meetings**

- 5.1 The future Programme Management Group meetings would be held as follows:

- Thursday 12 September 2019 – 10am-1pm – Rushmoor BC, Farnborough
- Thursday 14 November 2019 – 10am-1pm – Hampshire CC, Winchester
- Thursday 16 January 2020 – 10am-1pm – HG Wells, Woking
- Thursday 12 March 2020 – 10am-1pm – Rushmoor BC, Farnborough