

Enterprise M3 Programme Management Group

30 June 2020, 15:00-16:45

Zoom Video Conference

MINUTES

Members Attending

James Cretney - Chair
 Deborah Allen
 Dave Axam
 Rob Carr
 David Fletcher
 Matt Furniss
 Rob Humby
 Paul Millin
 Kathy Slack
 Lucille Thompson
 Catherine Turner

EM3 Guests Attending

Rachel Barker
 Lee Danson
 Geoff Wells
 Justine Davie

Apologies

Mike D'Alton

1. Welcome and Introductions

1.1 James Cretney welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. Declaration of Interest

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

Name	Interest	Declared Action
David Fletcher and Rob Humby	Supporting Town Centre Fund Fleet Town Centre	Left the room during the decision making
Lucille Thompson	Supporting Town Centre Fund	Remained in room the room as no decision made

3. Capital Programme Update

3.1 The Group received a report which set out the current progress with the capital programme. The Government's formal review of the 2020/21 programme had taken place which would assess whether the remainder of the Local Growth Fund would be allocated. Enterprise M3 reported to Government that the full LGF amount was contractually committed, and it was possible to spend the remaining LGF in 2020/21. Informal feedback received had been positive and it was expected that the final third of funding would be received in August. There was currently £5.1m unallocated and available to support projects. All existing project partners had been invited to consider whether there were opportunities to reposition projects to better respond to the current circumstances. A paper would be brought to the July PMG meeting advising the Group on the 'at risk' projects for a decision to be made whether the project should continue to be funded or the funding reallocated.

3.2 A letter had been received from MHCLG on 10 June requesting LEPs to identify capital projects that could stimulate the economy over the next 18 months. In light of the LEP's recent work to strengthen the current project pipeline Enterprise M3 had been in a strong position to

respond. Local authorities (LA), further education (FE) and higher education (HE) organisations were invited to submit proposals for projects to include in the submission. In response over 60 proposals were received with a total funding request of over £150m. All projects were assessed and scored against criteria agreed with the Covid-19 Sub Group of the Enterprise M3 Board which included digital and clean growth, deliverability, economic impact and profile. A list of 13 projects seeking a funding request of £47.7m was submitted to Government on 18 June which would help safeguard 4,000 jobs and unlock nearly 2,000 new homes.

3.3 The projects included in the submission were:

- Digital Skills Work (consortium of EM3 FE Colleges) – upgrading digital infrastructure building on work already carried out.
- Digital Fibre Spine – a step change in digital connectivity for the area serving business parks, commercial sites and major data centres.
- Creative Tech Growth Booster – a boost for the creative technology SME cluster for innovation and productivity gains.
- Vaultex Park and Ride – Park & Ride and charge your electric car site to increase use of low carbon transport.
- Super-Hub Regional Energy Storage – increase the much needed energy capacity and resilience along M3 corridor into West London.
- Space and Satellite Incubator Centre – generating 1400 sqm of office, lab and workspace for the growing space/satellite cluster.
- Building and Greener Future – renewable energy and low carbon projects to stimulate demand across the area in the low carbon sector.
- Whitehill & Bordon – A Digitally Connected New Market Town – investment to create a vibrant, attractive and self-sufficient town centre at Whitehill & Bordon.
- Blackwater Valley Gold Grid – improving bus journey time reliability and passenger perception of the bus service.
- Enterprise M3 Future Workspace Programme – regenerating vacant buildings into high quality town centre workspaces in response to Covid-19 led demand for more workplaces and less commuting.
- Low Carbon & Active Travel for High Street Renewal – restoring and renewing customer confidence and commercial activity to high streets through innovations in transport and smarter towns.
- Rural Broadband – a top-up to a current scheme offering rural residents up to £1,500 to enable a gigabit capable broadband connection.
- Surrey Heath 5G – establishing the UK's first full 5G shopping centre in Camberley Town Centre, in partnership with the 5G Innovation Centre at the University of Surrey

3.4 The Group was asked to consider the options for funding and which projects could deliver at pace, deliver the most significant economic benefits or best support a different type of economy post Covid-19. The number of projects that could be supported would depend on the amount of funding received from Government.

- 3.5 The Group discussed the projects and funding options available and recognised that the projects needed to be delivered at pace but agreed that projects that would deliver a long-term benefit should be included. The Group was advised that work was taking place on an economic recovery plan which would include looking at opportunities for drawing in funding from other sources. The Group noted the response to the Government's request for pipeline projects deliverable by January 2022.
- 3.6 The Enterprise M3 Supporting Town Centres Fund had been launched at the end of May with two closing dates in June. Seven bids were submitted and assessed against a set of criteria including project costs, deliverability, purpose, digital and low carbon. Two projects were rated as 'A' projects from Spelthorne Borough Council and Winchester City Council and, in line with powers delegated to the Chief Executive, were awarded funding totalling £136k. The two projects ranked 'C' from Farnham Town Council and Test Valley Borough Council would not currently be taken forward but Enterprise M3 would continue to work with the scheme promoters to further develop the proposals for future consideration where appropriate.
- 3.7 There were three projects ranked as 'B' project from Surrey Heath Borough Council, Waverley Borough Council and Hart District Council (HDC). The Enterprise M3 Team had been working with each of the applicants to develop the proposals to a position where they could be formally considered for an allocation of funding.
- 3.8 The Fleet Town Centre Recovery Scheme from HDC was now developed sufficiently to be considered for funding but exceeded the £100k limit of the Chief Executive's delegated authority. The proposal was for a pedestrianisation and cycling scheme which would see the closure of Fleet Road through the town centre and would connect the high street areas into the Green Grid via Fleet rail station, on onwards to Fleet Pond and Hartland Village. The funding request was for £148,761 against a total scheme cost of £262,139. The match funding was provided from HDC, Fleet Business Improvement District, Fleet Town Council and, subject to formal approval, from the Department for Transport through the Emergency Active Travel Fund.
- 3.9 The Group agreed that the Fleet Town Centre Recovery Scheme was a good scheme and agreed the allocation of £148,761 from the Enterprise M3 Supporting Town Centres Fund to HDC.

Action to be taken	By Whom	When
Proceed the Fleet Town Centre Recovery Scheme to contract	Kevin Travers	July 2020

4. Any Other Business

- 4.1 The future Programme Management Group meetings would be held as follows:
- Thursday 16 July 2020 – 10am-1pm – Zoom Video Conference
 - Thursday 10 September 2020 – 10am-1pm – Rushmoor BC, Farnborough
 - Thursday 12 November 2020 – 10am-1pm – Hampshire CC, Winchester
 - Thursday 14 January 2021 – 10am-1pm – TBC
 - Thursday 11 March 2021 – 10am-1pm – Rushmoor BC, Farnborough