

**Enterprise M3 Programme Management Group**

**10 September 2020**

**Getting Building Fund Programme Update – Item 4b**

Programme Management Group is asked to:

**NOTE:** the current progress in delivering Enterprise M3's Getting Building Fund programme.

**1. Background**

- 1.1. As reported at the last Programme Management Group, on 2 July 2020, we were formally notified that Enterprise M3's notional allocation under the new 'Getting Building Fund' would be £13.3m and that this funding would come to the LEP across two financial years. Enterprise M3 submitted the very strong list of projects to take forward using this funding as agreed by PMG
- 1.2. The Getting Building Fund programme includes the following projects:-
- |                                  |               |
|----------------------------------|---------------|
| 1. Digital Skills                | £2.1m         |
| 2. Gigabit EM3: Town and Rural   | £4.5m         |
| 3. Creative Teach Growth Booster | £0.9m         |
| 4. Park, Ride & EV Charge        | £5.6m         |
| 5. Clean Growth Programme        | £0.2m (pilot) |
|                                  | <b>£13.3m</b> |
- 1.3. The list was submitted on 17<sup>th</sup> July, and we have not yet received the grant offer letter from Government which will confirm the funding and the terms. However good progress has been made on the development of the five projects and a summary is outlined in this paper.

**2. Getting Building Fund**

- 2.1. Since the last PMG, good progress has been made on each of the projects. This report provides an update on each of the five projects
- 2.2. **Digital Skills** is a project being delivered by the consortium to advance the Digital Estate of six Further Education Colleges. The GBF capital investment will provide the necessary boost to make EM3 College ICT estates of sufficient specification to enable the sector to more effectively delivery their core curriculum, and modernise their curricula to support the application of the digital technologies, including degree/higher apprenticeships and in the professional development of academic staff. The project would represent an investment in every student studying in an Enterprise M3 College over the next five years.
- 2.3. A strong business case has been developed by the consortium and is currently being reviewed externally. It is expected that a report will be ready for approval in October and we are working with the Chair of PMG to investigate options to hold a PMG meeting to review this project outside of the usual cycle of meetings. The project will be able to commence shortly after approval and be delivered mainly in this financial year.
- 2.4. **Gigabit EM3: Town and Rural** is a major project to deploy gigabit-capable fibre along an initial route between Guildford and Basingstoke. A full update will be provided at the PMG. The comprehensive business case has been produced and is being reviewed externally by AECOM.
- 2.5. **Creative Tech Growth Booster** project will extend the state-of the art technology base at RHUL, embedding it within the R&D and technical support team of StoryFutures/Academy, enabling us to drive support innovation and risk to accelerate the recovery of our world-leading creative industries from Covid19.

- 2.6. The EOI has been produced and reviewed internally, with a report being presented at this PMG recommending approval
- 2.7. **Park, Ride and EV charge** based outside of Winchester, will provide 300 park and ride spaces with electric vehicle charging points, powered by renewable solar energy. This project was already in the pipeline, been through due diligence process and had been approved by the Board in May. The contract is currently with Winchester and is ready to be finalised subject to receipt of the GBF grant.
- 2.8. The **Clean Growth Programme** is a pilot programme to invest in renewable energy generation on public buildings, and innovative decarbonisation of transport and buildings. It is an investment of £200,000 into a pilot scheme for renewable energy and low carbon initiatives in the Enterprise M3 area that will kickstart a Green Recovery. Due to the relatively small sum of funding available and the condition that the funding had to be spent quickly, it was decided the best approach was to run a closed application process, assessing the bids that were submitted at the first stage of the process.
- 2.9. This process has now concluded and options for funding the projects in this pilot is to be presented at this Programme Management Group
- 2.10. A further progress update on the Getting Building Fund programme will be provided at the next Programme Management Group

Lee Danson,  
2 September 2020