

Enterprise M3 Board

28 January 2021

Getting Building Fund Programme Update – Item 9b

EM3 Board is asked to:

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

1. Background

- 1.1. We are making good progress with the development of our five projects and a summary is provided below for each of them. Decisions have been made to progress all projects with the exception of Gigabit EM3 Town and Rural, and contracts have been agreed for all of the confirmed projects.
- 1.2. The total value of the Getting Building Fund programme is £13.3m. We are forecasting that we will meet the requirement to ensure that 50% of GBF spend is delivered in this first year; we therefore do not need to utilise freedoms and flexibilities for this programme.

2. Getting Building Fund

- 2.1. **Digital Skills** is a project being delivered by a consortium of six Further Education Colleges to advance their Digital Estate. The project has been approved by PMG and is at the final stage of contract approval.
- 2.2. **Gigabit EM3: Town and Rural** is a major project to deploy gigabit-capable fibre along an initial route between Guildford and Basingstoke. The Board approved a sum of £250k of revenue funding for the project to be developed and to address the issues raised in due diligence. The outstanding issues are that of identifying the delivery partner for the project, establishing the complete funding package, and establishing the detailed design for the route including updated timescales for delivery. An update is to be provided as a separate item at this Board meeting. We expect to have the results of this exercise in the next few weeks, which will allow us to take decisions on the future shape of the project at the Board meeting in March. In case the work does not enable the Board to make a decision to proceed, the team are identifying alternative projects that can be delivered within the criteria of the GBF programme.
- 2.3. **Creative Tech Growth Booster.** A project that will extend the state-of the art technology base at RHUL, supporting the recovery of creative industries from Covid19. This project contract has now been signed. This is expected to be delivered mostly in 2020/21.
- 2.4. **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. The contract is signed and work is progressing.
- 2.5. The **Clean Growth Programme** is a pilot programme to invest in renewable energy generation on public buildings, and innovative decarbonisation of transport and buildings. All 6 of these projects have now been approved and contracts finalised. The outputs of the projects within this pilot programme exceed the targets in our original submission.

Lee Danson
21 January 2021