

Enterprise M3 Board Meeting
Thursday 7th April 2022
AGM & Annual Report – Item 12

The Board is asked to:

- **NOTE** This paper and a verbal update on the key messages and emphasis of content in our 21/22 Annual Report, as developed in consultation with Debbie Allen and Linda Cheung
- **NOTE** Excellent progress with preparations for the Annual Conference and AGM to be held at Farnborough International Exhibition Centre on Friday 20th May

1. Introduction

- 1.1. In any year the publication of our Annual Report and our Annual General Meeting are among the most important events of the LEP's calendar. They always represent an important opportunity to review the year's work, and to celebrate and showcase the breadth and depth of our successes to Government, partners, stakeholders and our own team.
- 1.2. This year timing of the 21/22 AGM and publication of the Annual Report is particularly significant, for two reasons:
 - This is Kathy's last Annual report and AGM before retiring as EM3's first Chief Executive – a post Kathy has held since January 2012.
 - This is Michael's first Annual Report and AGM since becoming Chair of Enterprise M3 in August 2021.

2. Annual Report - Key Messages

- 2.1. Despite an undercurrent of uncertainty caused by global issues and more parochial issues such as the LEP Review, Enterprise M3's Annual report for 21/22 tells a story of powerful impact.
- 2.2. As examples, EM3 made £25m of investment in 22 low carbon, high growth projects; 46 foreign direct investments were supported; we invested in projects making 200,000kg of CO2 savings -equivalent to 200 passengers flying return from Paris to New York. Further: EM3 has exceeded our targets in:
 - Learners supported (9000)
 - Learning floorspace (5,000m²)
 - Commercial floorspace (10,000m²)
 - Apprenticeships supported (800)
- 2.3. This Annual Report will also highlight EM3 strengths that do not lend themselves to measurement but still have real impact on the growth of our businesses and the prosperity of our communities. It will therefore cite numerous examples of EM3's convening power, where, with a strong business perspective, we have forged and lead partnerships of diverse stakeholders to spark results that otherwise would not have happened.
- 2.4. As we move into a refreshed and positive role for LEPs, this Annual Report will not only record past achievements. It will also look forward to a positive future where EM3 continues to pursue its dynamic, business-led and business-focused work, underpinned by its ethos of collaboration and partnership.

3. Arrangements for Approval of the Annual Report

- 3.1. As in past years, Linda Cheung and Deborah Allen have provided Board level oversight of the production of the Annual Report. As Director of Policy & Communications, Sue Littlemore, has strategic editorial oversight. Chief Executive, Kathy Slack, is responsible for final approval of the 21/22 Annual Report, and ensuring it is in line with the Board's overview.

4. Annual Conference and Annual General Meeting

- 4.1. Our Annual Conference and Annual General Meeting will be held on the 20th May 2022 at Farnborough International Exhibition and Conference Centre. The location is partly chosen for its central location and because the Centre is a strategic partner benefitting from our investment and support.
- 4.2. The event's title, "Together Again; Back to Business" reflects the return of the opportunity for our business and strategic partners to meet in person again; and opportunities to network on arrival and over lunch are key parts of the morning's schedule. A number of EM3 companies will be promoting their businesses in an exhibitors' area. Invitations to delegates have already attracted over 100 registrations. Further promotions are planned for the next few weeks.
- 4.3. Highlights of the schedule include a business panel discussion, chaired by Linda Cheung, and featuring companies supported by EM3. These include Sir Martin Sweeting, entrepreneur and founder of SSTL, the satellite manufacturing company. Barney Ely will be chairing the "Ask the Board" session giving an opportunity for anyone to ask questions of the EM3 panel. This has always been a popular part of our AGM, stimulating good discussions, and it is an important aspect of our commitment to accountability and transparency.

Sue Littlemore
Director, Policy, Economic Strategy, Communications
30 March 2022