

Enterprise M3 Board Meeting
Thursday 3 August 2023
Annual Report & Conference – Item 8

The Board is asked to:

- **NOTE** the designed Annual Report
- **AGREE** final Annual Report sign off arrangements for publication in September 2023
- **NOTE** the update on the Annual Business Conference

1. Introduction

- 1.1 The publication of our Annual Report and our Annual Conference are important events of the LEP's calendar. This year, both have particular significance considering the anticipated Government announcement on LEP funding and ongoing discussions about the future of economic development services beyond March 2024.

2. Approval and publication of the Annual Report

- 2.1 The Annual Report has been prepared and the link for the draft version has been circulate to Board members, please note that this is not the final version and Michael Queen's message will be added closer to publication so please do not share any further.
- 2.2 The theme of this year's report is promoting EM3 as an 'innovation region', which has been evidenced with statistics and case study extracts and designed in a highly visual, impactful way. The report has been reviewed by Stephen Martin, Managing Director of EM3.
- 2.3 It is proposed that Michael Queen, Chair of EM3 and Deborah Allen, Chair of RFAC, will be responsible for final approval of the report ahead of publication in September 2023.
- 2.4 Senior Communications Lead, Katherine Garrett, will have responsibility for the publication of the report and a targeted stakeholder engagement plan that will promote our successes, both from 2022-23 and the previous decade of delivering for our region.

3. Annual Business Conference

- 3.1 The response to this year's EM3 Annual Business Conference, "[Celebrating our Innovation Region](#)", taking place on Tuesday 3 October 2023 at the Village Hotel, Farnborough, has been a huge success. Registrations are now closed (a waiting list has been implemented) and we are on track to host 170 delegates (the maximum capacity) at the event. This includes a good mixture of senior stakeholders from our businesses, local authorities, universities, and colleges, as well as trade bodies and Government representatives.
- 3.2 Our Annual Conference has always played an important role in the LEP's accountability to the public. As in previous years, our audience will have the opportunity to put questions about the LEP's work to a panel of Board members. Thank you to those Board members who have agreed to take part in this and to those chairing sessions; briefing meetings are being set up for September 2023.

Katherine Garrett
Senior Communications Lead
21 July 2023