

## ENTERPRISE M3 JOINT LEADERS BOARD

Notes of a meeting of the Joint Leaders Board held on Wednesday, 21st September 2016 in Committee Room 1, Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council, Basingstoke, Hampshire at 10.00 a.m.

### Present:

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| Cllr Clive Sanders  | Leader, Basingstoke & Deane Borough Council (in the Chair) |
| Laura Taylor        | Executive Director, Basingstoke & Deane Borough Council    |
| Cllr Ferris Cowper  | Leader, East Hampshire District Council                    |
| Tom Horwood         | Executive Director, East Hampshire District Council        |
| Doug Perkins        | Economic Development, Elmbridge Borough Council            |
| Cllr Paul Spooner   | Leader, Guildford Borough Council                          |
| Sue Sturgeon        | Managing Director, Guildford Borough Council               |
| Cllr Keith Mans     | Deputy Leader, Hampshire County Council                    |
| Cllr Stephen Parker | Leader, Hart District Council                              |
| Daryl Phillips      | Joint Chief Executive, Hart District Council               |
| Cllr Jeremy Heron   | Cabinet Member, New Forest District Council                |
| Andrew Lloyd        | Chief Executive, Rushmoor Borough Council                  |
| Roberto Tambini     | Chief Executive, Spelthorne Borough Council                |
| Cllr Moira Gibson   | Leader, Surrey Heath Borough Council                       |
| Karen Whelan        | Chief Executive, Surrey Heath Borough Council              |
| Cllr Ian Carr       | Leader, Test Valley Borough Council                        |
| Steve Tilbury       | Corporate Director, Winchester City Council                |
| Ray Morgan          | Chief Executive, Woking Borough Council                    |

### Guests:

|              |                                    |
|--------------|------------------------------------|
| Katja Stille | Tibbalds Planning and Urban Design |
| Geoff French | Chairman, Enterprise M3            |
| Kathy Slack  | Director, Enterprise M3            |
| Tanja Aijo   | Enterprise M3                      |

Apologies for absence were submitted by councillors Peter Martin (Surrey County Council), Ian Harvey (Spelthorne Borough Council), Edward Heron (New Forest District Council), Stuart Selleck (Elmbridge Borough Council), Stephen Godfrey (Winchester City Council), David Clifford (Rushmoor Borough Council) and John Kingsbury (Woking Borough Council).

### 1. MINUTES –

The Board agreed the minutes of the meeting held on 14th July 2016.

## 2. PLACE MAKING FOR ECONOMIC GROWTH –

- 2.1 The Board welcomed Katja Stille, Associate Director of Tibbalds Planning and Urban Design, who gave a presentation to the Board on the topic of how place making could support and enable economic success and vitality. The planning consultancy had been appointed by Hampshire County and Basingstoke and Deane Borough Councils to produce a masterplan for the development at Manydown, Basingstoke.
- 2.2 Katja Stille described place making as a multi-faceted approach to the planning, design and management of public spaces, and making the most of a local community's assets, inspiration and potential. She then presented details of three projects in Central Bedfordshire, Maldon Causeway and Hertford Town Centre, where Tibbalds had been working with local authorities to deliver on development briefs taking a place making approach.
- 2.3 In Central Bedfordshire, at Dunstable, the Council had taken a proactive approach to leading the improvement of the town centre by making use of its own land. The Council had looked at the overall picture of council owned land in and around the town centre, and developed a new masterplan for the town based on creating distinct quarters by relocating existing facilities and redefining areas for education and leisure, residential and open space, and town centre expansion.
- 2.4 At Maldon Causeway, a partnership approach was taken to developing a new strategy to help the business district fulfil its economic potential. This included the delivery of environmental enhancements, including improvements to the main gateway, a new enterprise centre, business support and a strategic flooding risk review. Development briefs were prepared for the key sites, to help ensure that future development supported the Council's vision for the area.
- 2.5 For Hertford Town Centre, a new vision was developed which built on the town's existing assets and its unique elements. The strategy sought to ensure that the town served the needs of the local population, and that the length of visits was maximised. The strategy also sought to increase the variety of users, with plans to support more employment, residential and leisure use.
- 2.6 Ray Morgan, Chief Executive at Woking Borough Council, gave a presentation describing the processes carried out in the development of the Woking 2050 Climate Change Strategy, which set out a vision for the kind of place wanted for Woking in future. The work had been environment led, and began with questions around 'what makes Woking a sustainable place?' The aim of the Strategy was to balance the Borough's environmental aspirations with the Borough's needs for development and economic prosperity. It was explained how the Strategy co-ordinated a wide range of objectives into one comprehensive document that could be used by the Council and Woking's residents, businesses, community groups.

- 2.7 Some of the key elements in the process of developing Woking 2050 included a significant level of analysis in understanding 'where are we now' – which included a focus on socio economic issues and biodiversity - and examining the town's relative strengths and weaknesses, potential threats to sustainability, and opportunities for the Council to make positive interventions in support of the long-term vision. It was emphasised that support from politicians was critical to the success of developing and delivering on the Strategy ambitions.
- 2.8 **It was agreed** that a copy of Woking 2050, and related policy framework documents be circulated to the Board.
- 2.9 During discussion on the presentations, the following points were made in respect of place making and improving economic vitality of town centres:-
- Make it easy to get there – provision for pedestrians and sustainable transport should be balanced with ease of access to car parking (there is evidence that people will drive further to shop at an alternative town if parking is easier). Provision for short-term central parking
  - Ensure good connectivity (pedestrian/cycle routes) between public transport points/car parks and the town centre – particularly where you have a major transport hub e.g. Woking station
  - The location of car parks can be planned in such a way as to reduce impact on air quality/congestion for residential areas
  - Provide the local services that people want e.g. hairdressers, chiropractors, coffee shops, restaurants – places that enable people to 'dwell a while'
  - Encourage a greater mix of land use in town centres – moving to a more balanced mix of retail, residents (including family housing with garden space) and commercial businesses – can start with the question 'how would we like to live/travel?', or can be planning led.
- 2.10 With regard to the Enterprise M3 LEP area as a whole, the Board recognised the need for complementary places, shaped with an understanding of different towns' relative strengths and weaknesses. e.g. for some towns a park and ride scheme would be viable, and in others high speed commuter cycle routes would make a real impact. It was noted that the clearer the vision for the LEP area, and the places within it, the easier it would be for Enterprise M3 to fund projects that supported the wider vision.

### 3. **ENTERPRISE M3 UPDATE –**

- 3.1 Kathy Slack, Tanja Aijo and Geoff French gave a joint presentation to the Leaders Board with a summary of Enterprise M3's key successes in 2015/16, a financial summary, programme update and an update on Local Growth Fund 3 (copy of presentation available on the EM3 [Joint Leaders Board website](#)).
- 3.2 A map showing the geographical spread and impact of Enterprise M3 projects and investments across the partnership area was presented to, and noted by the Board.

### Local Growth Fund 3

- 3.3 It was reported that a final bid of £164m had been sent to the Government on 28th July, and it was expected that the outcome would be announced in the Autumn Statement. Early feedback on the bid had been positive, so in the case that the funding was not achieved, it would be important to understand the reasons why other areas had been successful. **It was agreed** that any local authority feedback on the process for developing the bid be forwarded to Enterprise M3.

### Programme Update

- 3.4 On the Local Growth Fund (LGF) programme, the latest figures showed the current spend projection to be £75.3m, which was 99% of the LGF allocations for 2015/16 and 2016/17 (£76.1m). The Fund was over programmed to help ensure delivery. On the Growing Enterprise Fund (GEF), £17.8m had been paid out so far, with £4.7m already paid back and £2.8m loan repayments expected this year. A fifth round of GEF would be opened in October 2016, which would be an open call with a fund of £6m and the same criteria as the previous round. The Board also noted the latest investments enabled through the Funding Escalator, which included RazorSecure a business, providing active security for small-scale Internet of Things networks.
- 3.5 In response to a question it was advised that bids for GEF (low interest loans) would be considered as they were received, in this way it was an advantage to submit early after the launch date. **It was agreed** that news about the GEF would be shared with local authority economic development teams.
- 3.6 On European Funding, contracts had been signed for European Social Fund (ESF) Technical Assistance. There was an expectation that all the calls which had already been issued would continue, however there was greater uncertainty about the period following the Autumn Statement. The Government could continue with calls linked to nationally important projects. A challenge for Enterprise M3 would be to decide the funding that that might be needed in future, once the European funding programmes had finished.
- 3.7 Further to the update on the Enterprise Zone, it was confirmed that an agreement was being reached with the three Local Authorities on how the business rates would work.
- 3.8 Kathy Slack then presented on the key Enterprise M3 successes and highlights for the previous year (as set out in the presentation slides). This included a range of project activity which had been undertaken jointly with local authorities helped by secondments. It was suggested that an increase in secondments/sharing expertise from local authorities could be explored going forward. Further to the information on operational budgets and finance highlights, the Board noted that it was proposed to keep local authority contributions at the same level for 2017/18 (£20k for county councils and £10k for districts/boroughs).
- 3.9 **The Board agreed** that Enterprise M3 was generating positive economic impacts and results for the LEP area, and endorsed the 'ambition areas' for the following period.

4. **BOARD AND PROGRAMME MANGEMENT GROUP MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS –**

4.1 **The Board agreed** the following nominations to the Enterprise M3 Programme Management Group (PMG) for a further two-year period:

- Councillor Peter Martin (Surrey County Council)
- Councillor Ian Carr (Test Valley Borough Council)
- Kevin Lloyd (Head of Economic Growth, Surrey County Council)
- Andrew Lloyd (Chief Executive, Rushmoor Borough Council)

5. **DATES OF NEXT MEETINGS –**

5.1 The Board noted the following dates for future meetings:-

- 10.00 a.m. Wednesday, 23rd November 2016 (cancelled)
- 2.00 p.m. Tuesday, 24th January 2017 (Farnborough)