

## THE SOUTH EAST MIDLANDS LOCAL ENTERPRISE PARTNERSHIP (SEMLEP)

### 1 Purpose

- 1.1 The purpose of this meeting is to hear from the Chair of the South East Midlands Local Enterprise Partnership (SEMLEP), Dr Ann Limb, about the needs of business and what SEMLEP is currently doing or proposing to do to support businesses in its patch, including Aylesbury Vale businesses.
- 1.2 The meeting will also explore how SEMLEP is supporting AVDC's Economic Development Strategy objectives

### 2 Recommendations

That Scrutiny Committee is recommended to:

- 2.1 Note the information contained in the report and updates during the presentation.
- 2.2 Comment upon and explore further the support provided by the LEP to Vale businesses, either current or proposed
- 2.3 Identify areas where members think particular support should be targeted, and inform the Cabinet member of the committee's comments, including, where appropriate, suggesting any actions.

### 3 Supporting Information & Background

- 3.1 Following the Economy Scrutiny Committee in January 2012, it was agreed that there would be a series of themes which the committee would like to explore further, involving external speakers and as such, inviting them to meetings to provide input for consideration and debate.
- 3.2 This meeting represents a continuation of the theme 'What businesses want or need'. It deals specifically with the request made at the 20<sup>th</sup> March Scrutiny Committee meeting to hear more about what business support there was out there, especially from the South East Midlands Local Enterprise Partnership (SEMLEP). The activities of the Buckinghamshire Thames Valley Local Enterprise Partnership (BTVLEP) and Bucks Business First (BBF) were aired at the 4<sup>th</sup> September 2012 meeting.

#### 3.3 What is the main role of a Local Enterprise Partnership?

In June 2010, the coalition Government invited areas to bid to form Local Enterprise Partnerships (LEPs), following the abolition of the Regional Development Agencies and changes to the national business support infrastructure.

SEMLEP was established in May 2011, one of 39 Local Enterprise Partnerships across the country. Cllr Michael Edmonds, Deputy Leader and Portfolio Holder for Economic Development, is on the SEMLEP Board and acts as Board Champion for the Digital Infrastructure objective (NGA Broadband).

Essentially, the role of LEPs is to enable Local Authorities and business representatives collectively to:

- Shape, inform and be informed by, the real needs of business;

- Develop private-sector led commercial business cases in response to national funding opportunities;
- Provide a mechanism for businesses and local authorities to lobby for an appropriate share of national resources;
- To harness the collective experience and insight of business and local authorities to focus priorities;
- To provide sustained and joined-up lobbying for business critical infrastructure (e.g. East/West Rail);
- To bring together views on how best to use funding proposals to support jobs, employment growth, skills and training and infrastructure.

Following the publication of Lord Heseltine's report "*No Stone Unturned in Pursuit of Growth - a new partnership for growth*" at the end of October 2012, the Local Enterprise Partnerships are poised to assume wider responsibilities, with increasing devolution of funding from central Government to LEPs, including City Deal and possible outcomes from the LEP 'growth conversation' currently underway, as well as greater support for nationally significant sectors. The Government is currently considering whether to take forward recommendations from Lord Heseltine's Report and could make an announcement shortly.

In his report, Lord Heseltine makes the case for boosting growth in Britain's regions by recommending a major rebalancing of responsibilities between central and local government and between government and the private sector. The key point for the LEPs is that the Government is providing up to £250k for the next two years (dependent on matched funding locally) to allow the LEPs to develop their local economic business and investment plans to be ready to compete for resources from Government. If Lord Heseltine's recommendation were adopted then these resources would be in the form of a single national pot to support economic growth over a five year period from 2015 onwards.

#### **4 The South East Midlands Local Enterprise Partnership (SEMLEP) – objectives & selected achievements**

SEMLEP was established as a company in May 2011 and the Chair and Board (consisting of 6 public and 6 private sector directors, a representative of the Higher and Further Education sectors and an observer from the Voluntary and Community sector) were in place by November 2011.

The vision for SEMLEP is as follows:

*"By March 2015, the South East Midlands Local Enterprise Partnership aspires to be one of the most innovative, successful and high performing local enterprise partnerships in England, as measured in overall terms, by growth in Gross Value Added per head relative to other LEPs and as demonstrated by the effective collective leadership provided by local authority and private sector partners."*

The key objectives and some recent achievements are set out below (**see Appendix B1 for SEMLEP Business Plan 2012-2013**).

***Objective 1: To ensure that the SEMLEP Northampton Waterside Enterprise Zone successfully delivers its initial targets for new jobs and businesses by March 2013.***

The Enterprise Zone was designated in July 2011. Good progress has been made throughout last year including:

- Funding of £10m secured for the development of Castle Rail Station. It is expected that the new station will open in April 2014.
- Development has started on a number of sites - the new Carlsberg bottling plant will bring £65m of private investment and deliver 60 new jobs in 2013.
- An Innovation Centre to be constructed in the St Peter's area later in 2013 has secured £7.5m investment and will support around 55 small businesses
- New student accommodation for the University of Northampton will be completed on the St John's site by January 2014 providing 464 rooms.
- Two contractors have been appointed to undertake a skills assessment across the Enterprise Zone funded by £100k from the Skills Funding Agency.

**Objective 2: To attract new overseas business into the South East Midlands through accelerated delivery of all SEMLEP local authorities inward investment plans**

- A single point of enquiry has been established for potential investors coming through UKTI and looking for locations in the SEMLEP area. AVDC is represented on the Officer steering group working with UKTI to help raise the profile of our area, sector and other unique strengths and handle enquiries.
- The Chair attended our Global Assistive Medical Technologies Business Summit on 4<sup>th</sup> September, when 150 academics, overseas businesses and Paralympic associations visited Stoke Mandeville Stadium.
- Working with the SEMLEP UKTI contacts, AVDC managed to secure a visit of the Rt Hon David Willetts MP, Secretary of State for Universities and Science, to the formal opening of Intel and McAfee's new global engineering centre for Cyber Security (one of four globally) in November. McAfee is also an active steering Board member Aylesbury's University Technical Centre for ICT and construction, alongside CISCO and ESRI.

In 2011/12 SEMLEP was 6<sup>th</sup> amongst LEPs in securing 29 projects with an associated 1,090 jobs. The Board heard in July 2012 that 29 enquiries had been received: 8 electronics and software, 9 from life sciences and healthcare, 7 from energy and environment, 4 from advanced engineering and 1 financial.

**Objective 3: To facilitate investment in key new physical infrastructure to unlock short and medium term development across SEMLEP**

- £18.7m of Growing Places Fund resources was made available to SEMLEP in February 2012 to allocate to projects that will unlock development potential and deliver jobs. Seven projects were approved in principle including £4.4m of this fund allocated to support **Silverstone** and

£1m allocated to support **East West Rail**. The seven projects will deliver a combined total of around 12,800 jobs and 7,200 homes over the next 10 years

- In July the Government announced that the electrified East West rail route linking Oxford, Milton Keynes, Aylesbury and Bedford will be delivered by Network Rail at a cost of around £500m with local authorities committed to contributing £30m to £50m
- Four transport projects within the SEMLEP area have received funding through the Government's Pinch Point initiative designed to remove bottlenecks on major roads and deliver economic benefits. These are the A43/A5 at Towcester, Junctions 9 and 10 on the M40 near Bicester and Black Cat roundabout on the A1
- In the second wave of potential '**City Deals**', Milton Keynes has been invited to work with SEMLEP to put forward a bid to use innovative ways of delivering jobs and economic benefits for residents and businesses in Milton Keynes and the rest of the South East Midlands
- SEMLEP has been chosen by Government as one of **4 'growth' LEPs** nationally to pilot innovative ways of working with business and government to unlock local barriers to growth SEMLEP met with the relevant Ministers and Departments on 21<sup>st</sup> November. Under both the City Deal and the pilot Growth LEP discussions, AVDC have put forward three projects receiving consideration, including the **Eastern Link Road (ELR)**

***Objective 4: To facilitate investment in key digital infrastructure to accelerate development across SEMLEP***

- A report of NGA coverage across SEMLEP and issues and opportunities was discussed at the November 2012 Board.

***Objective 5: To work with the secondary, further, higher, voluntary and community, and private sector education and training providers across SEMLEP to ensure skills outcomes match business and social enterprise needs***

- Work has been undertaken by SEMLEP on the skills needs for the Northampton Enterprise Zone. A couple of workshops have been held to identify how to progress the skills agenda identifying sector needs across SEMLEP.

***Objective 6: To support all SEMLEP local authorities to deliver their economic development plans and related activities designed to stimulate growth, engage with business and enhance SEMLEP's reputation in its showcase sectors***

- The two showcase sector groups below are of particular importance to AVDC and AVDC is represented on the sector champion's groups. A key aim of these showcase sector groups is to help identify what businesses we have in the area, what their supply chain linkages are, what their barriers to growth are and how to attract other related businesses into the

SEMLEP area, where there are supply chain gaps.

**High Performance Technology** (encompassing motorsport), led by Richard Phillips of Silverstone which includes neighbouring LEPs such as Oxfordshire and Northamptonshire as well as Bucks Thames Valley

**Manufacturing and Advanced Technology** led by Walter Greaves, previously a Director of Mercedes Benz UK

## 5 The key themes and main activity areas of AVDC's Economic Development strategy

- *Enterprise*: the need to sustain the Vale's thriving enterprise culture by encouraging the next generation of start ups to remain and grow within the Vale. This is likely to be supported through entrepreneurial education, such as that proposed by the Waterside Academy
- *Enabling infrastructure*: the provision of excellent underpinning infrastructure, which, as well as providing excellent road and rail linkages (East/West Rail, Eastern Link Road) needs to include the provision of superfast Broadband of up to 40Mbps, as set out in the corporate plan
- *Business retention & growth*: proactively targeting and supporting growth-oriented employers in the Vale through enhanced access to finance, expert advice and planning for suitable premises and business locations, as part of the Vale of Aylesbury Plan
- *Inward investment*: better promotion of the 'niche' offer of Aylesbury Vale & proactive targeting of inward investment to support local sector strengths (high performance technology, ICT and telehealth, food) and working with Local Enterprise Partnerships, property developers & agents, Aylesbury Vale Estates (AVE) and UK Trade & Investment (UKTI)
- *Enhancing knowledge economy skills*: the need to ensure that current and future workforce skills are appropriate for the 21<sup>st</sup> century global marketplace, as well as offering young people alternative career paths to help retain professionals, graduates, apprentices and qualified technicians in the local economy

### Key activity areas include:

- promoting Aylesbury Vale's offer to the business community as widely as possible
- working with Aylesbury Vale Estates (AVE) and other partners to provide great facilities for businesses in the Vale
- help start-up companies find suitable premises and support existing Vale businesses to stay and expand in the Vale
- helping Silverstone make tangible progress towards fulfilling its development brief, and assisting delivery of other major sites
- enabling the introduction of faster broadband, especially in rural areas
- playing an active role in South-East Midlands Local Enterprise Partnership (SEMLEP) and Buckinghamshire TV LEP
- considering opportunities to encourage business growth arising from any re-localisation or local flexibilities on business rates
- supporting the adoption and delivery of the Vale of Aylesbury Plan:
  - reviewing and adjusting planning policies to support and encourage business investment and growth across the Vale, and ensure sufficient

land is allocated for future employment needs identifying infrastructure required to support new development and wider Vale needs

- identification and promotion of existing and new employment sites, thus ensuring that they are unblocked and get developed and promoted
  - using funding sources (such as Community Infrastructure Levy, Growing Places Fund, New Homes Bonus) to help meet the costs of key growth-related infrastructure
- 
- focusing more on identifying and attracting in high growth knowledge economy businesses
  - better targeting and promotion of the inward investment offer, enhancing the website and marketing campaigns and their reach to intended audiences
  - supporting cluster/sector development where the Vale has obvious strengths
  - developing and supporting employers in recruiting different skills for future growth, including apprentices and future graduates of University Technical Centres
  - encouraging more collaboration between Universities, businesses etc in areas of innovation, technology and higher level skills linked with the employers in the area

## **6 Resource implications**

- 6.1 These are concerned with how we can effectively harness and align the resources of SEMLEP for the benefit of Aylesbury Vale businesses in taking forward our economic development strategy and activities to supplement our limited ED in-house resources.

## **7 Response to Key Aims and Objectives**

- 7.1 Economic Development functions of the council contribute to the corporate plan objectives of Growing the Economy of the Vale and Deliver Efficient and Economic Services.

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# SEM LEP

South East Midlands  
Local Enterprise Partnership



Getting **down** to business

Plan for growth April 2012-March 2013

# Looking Back: Looking Forward

The South East Midland Local Enterprise Partnership, SEMLEP, is one of 39 Local Enterprise Partnerships (LEPs) in England set up under the Coalition Government to play a central role in determining local economic priorities and to undertake activities that drive economic growth and the creation of local jobs.

Following a start up phase in 2010-11, SEMLEP was established in May 2011 as an economic development partnership and a company limited by guarantee, operated jointly by private and public sector representatives in the area, to promote the South East Midlands as a prime growth location for business, investors and visitors.

I was appointed as the independent private sector chair in September 2011 to lead a board that comprises six private and six public sectors directors, a director from the training provider, further and higher education world and a director from the voluntary and community sector. Working with them, and through the business organisations and local authorities across the South East Midlands, the Board has, over the last six months and in consultation with over a thousand businesses, social enterprises, individuals and community groups, developed **Getting Down to Business** our Business Plan for the year April 2012-March 2013, which, together with SEMLEP's new website, is launched today at our first Business Innovation and Growth (BIG) Conference.

I should like to thank everyone who has contributed to **Getting Down to Business** and all who have supported this second developmental phase in SEMLEP's life. The Board, together with all our partners and stakeholders, has a shared appetite and collective ambition for sustainable growth throughout the South East Midlands and **Getting Down to Business** demonstrates how we will tackle this endeavour together over the next 12 months.

During January and February this year, the Board travelled throughout the South East Midlands holding ten **Meet the Board** engagement events to introduce SEMLEP and our work to businesses and communities. We consulted on our draft business plan and listened to people's ideas, concerns and issues. This final version of **Getting Down to Business** has been significantly influenced by what we learnt from these events.

Our view that SEMLEP's sphere of operation, determined uniquely by functional economic geography rather than by local authority or arbitrary regional boundaries, was consistently affirmed in our discussions with businesses and neighbouring LEPs, who all stressed that growth should not be constrained by political boundaries. Significantly, our thinking on how we maintain an innovative edge for SEMLEP moving forward was richly shaped by what was raised in the question and answer sessions and has led to the creation of five innovation streams highlighted below.

**Getting Down to Business** outlines a clear ambition for what we want to achieve and sets challenging targets and performance indicators to enable us to track and measure progress. Success will only be achieved through strong local collective leadership and accountability – and I am confident that we have this across the local authorities, businesses and social enterprises involved in SEMLEP. I am also excited by the aspiration for innovation which I encounter across the area. In this respect, I am pleased that over the next twelve months, in addition to implementation and delivery of **Getting Down to Business**, SEMLEP's work will also focus on **five innovation work streams** - projects that will engage public and private sector leaders in exploring how SEMLEP can stay ahead of the curve.

We are still working up the details for these fields of enquiry that will centre around:

- **exploring innovative ways of funding localism** by looking at appropriate ways to pool the range of funding streams now available across the LEP area e.g. Community Infrastructure Levy, New Homes Bonus, retained Business Rates and Tax Increment Financing
- **investigating appropriate policy opportunities to take forward SEMLEP's growth towns** by researching ways in which SEMLEP can derive benefit from any new government initiatives such as city deals and the growth cities network
- **developing examples of good procurement practice that enable social enterprises and small and medium sized businesses** to provide goods and services to the public sector



- **researching a local skills outcome funding methodology that will enable funding to be more effectively targeted towards the needs of local employers and businesses** particularly as identified in our Enterprise Zone Implementation Plan and in our six showcase sectors

- **taking a lead on devising an effective way for SEMLEP, together with other LEPs, to acquire devolved responsibility for funding major transport projects.** This will be the opportunity for SEMLEP to put into practice our aspirations to work collaboratively with surrounding LEPs in Northamptonshire, Buckinghamshire, Oxfordshire and Greater Cambridgeshire and Greater Peterborough to deliver strategic infrastructure projects that will help the wider area to flourish.

There is a lot to do and huge collective will, energy and drive to succeed. I am optimistic that by harnessing this across the South East Midlands LEP, we can work together to achieve our ambition. I look forward to continuing to work with the Board and with all our partners and stakeholders over the next year to deliver **Getting Down to Business** and also to tackling our **innovation work streams** so we can be sure to stay ahead.



Dr Ann Limb OBE DL  
Chair  
South East Midlands Local Enterprise Partnership

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## SEMLEP is

the **economic development partnership**, operated jointly by the private and public sectors in the area, **to promote the South East Midlands as a prime growth location for business, investors and visitors.**

The company was set up in May 2011. It is one of 39 Local Enterprise Partnerships (LEPs) in England established by the Coalition Government to play a central role in determining local economic priorities and to undertake activities that drive economic growth and the creation of local jobs.

## SEMLEP focuses

on **private sector-led growth and inward investment**; our role is to **create the right environment for businesses and social enterprises to grow.**

## SEMLEP comprises

a board of 15 volunteers - six private and six public sectors directors, a director from the training provider, further and higher education worlds, a director from the voluntary and community sector and an independent private sector chair.

## SEMLEP works

through its Board and is characterised by a **strong and transparent unity of purpose shared by all partners.** By working together in pursuit of this single purpose, we aim to get the best out of public and private leaders at all levels in the organisations and rural and urban communities with whom we work, and throughout businesses and social enterprises of all types and size.

## SEMLEP's ambition

By March 2015, the South East Midlands Local Enterprise Partnership aspires to be one of the **most innovative, successful and high performing local enterprise partnerships in England**, as measured in over all terms, by growth in Gross Value Added per head\* relative to other LEPs and as demonstrated by the effective collective leadership provided by local authority and private sector partners.

## SEMLEP's success

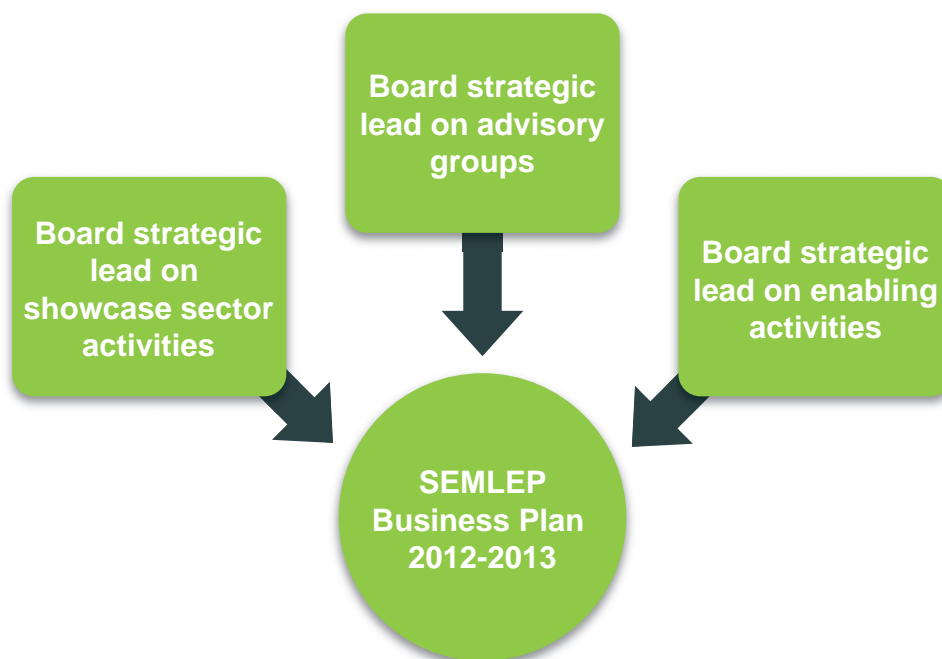
will be measured by the positive impact its activities have on **businesses, jobs, homes and communities.**

\* For detailed breakdown of specific outcome see page 8.

## Board operation and Business Plan implementation and monitoring

The Board provides **collective strategic leadership** overseeing implementation and evaluation of the Business Plan through its showcase sectors groups, advisory groups and strategic enabling activity groups

### SEMLEP Board Strategic leadership



The Board fulfils its **collective strategic leadership** role by focussing on the following actions

- giving **support** to local authority delivery teams, businesses and other stakeholder groups engaged in implementation of local authority plans and overall SEMLEP business plan
- fulfilling a **scrutiny** role in respect of performance management of SEMLEP Business Plan agreed activities
- providing **stewardship** of funds, programmes and projects agreed in SEMLEP Business Plan e.g. Enterprise Zone, Growing Places Fund, East West Rail
- offering **skills** and expertise to showcase sector groups, advisory groups and enabling activities
- **stretching** thinking and challenging ways of working

## The Board



**Dr Ann Limb OBE DL**  
Chair of SEMLEP



**John Corrigan**  
Head of Facilities  
Management iPSL and,  
Chairman Brackmills Business  
Improvement District (BID)  
Board



**Cheryl Smart MBE**  
Chief Executive  
Bedfordshire Chamber of  
Commerce



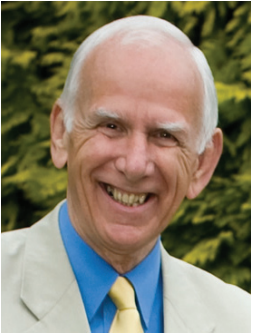
**Richard Phillips**  
Managing Director  
Silverstone Holdings Limited



**Stephen Judge**  
co-founder  
Bonfire



**Tom Wells**  
Chairman  
Leawood Manufacturing



**Walter Greaves**  
Former Director of  
Mercedes Benz (UK)



**Councillor David  
Mackintosh**  
Leader of Northampton  
Borough Council



**Councillor Mary Clarke**  
Leader of South  
Northamptonshire Council



**Councillor Michael  
Edmonds**  
Deputy Leader of Aylesbury  
Vale District Council



**Councillor Roy Davis**  
Portfolio Holder for  
Regeneration at Luton  
Borough Council



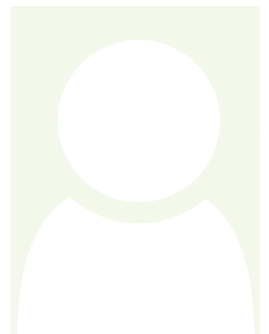
**Councillor Mrs Patricia  
Turner MBE**  
Central Bedfordshire  
Council



**Mayor Dave Hodgson**  
Leader of Bedford Borough  
Council



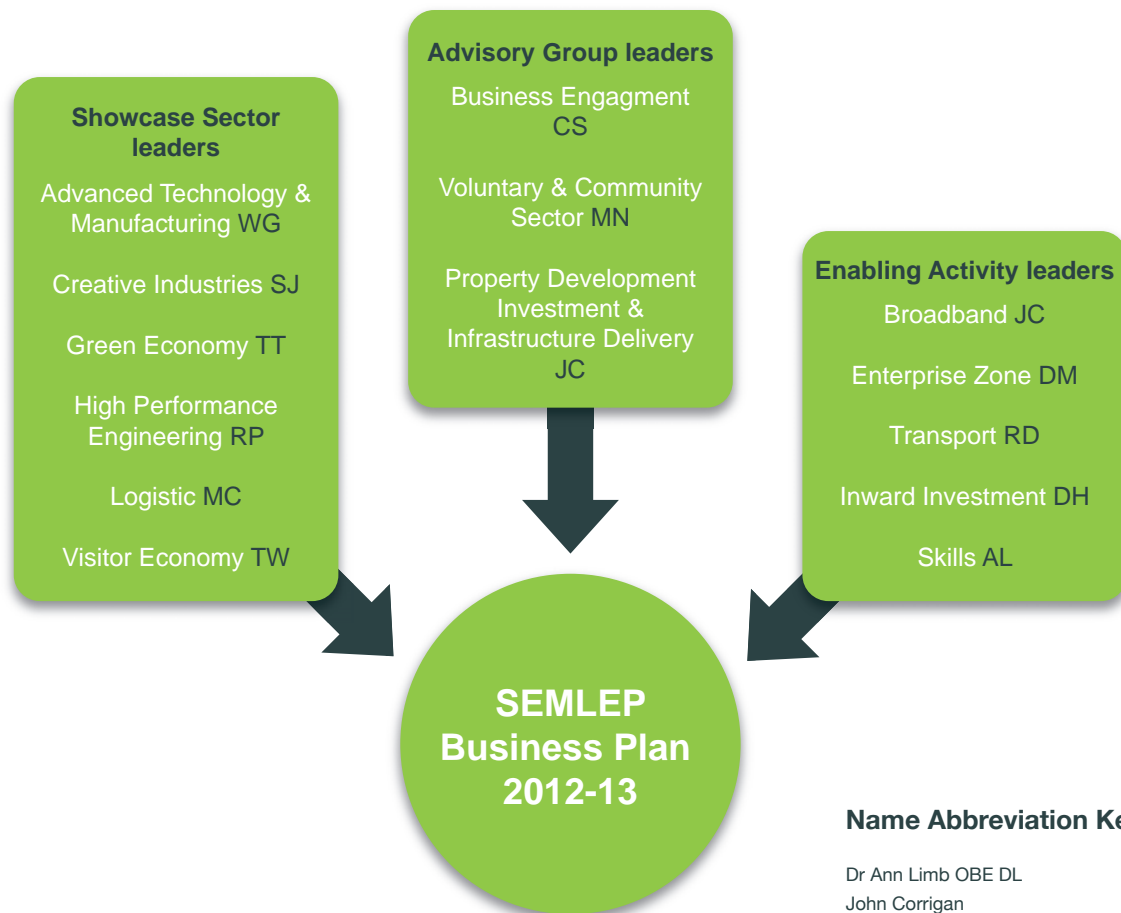
**Mike Nussbaum**  
Voluntary Sector Observer



**Board Member for Further  
& Higher Education Sector  
to be appointed**



## SEMLEP Board Strategic leadership



### Name Abbreviation Key

Dr Ann Limb OBE DL	AL
John Corrigan	JC
Cheryl Smart MBE	CS
Richard Phillips	RP
Stephen Judge	SJ
Tom Wells	TW
Walter Greaves	WG
Councillor David Mackintosh	DM
Councillor Mary Clarke	MC
Councillor Michael Edmonds	ME
Councillor Roy Davis	RD
Councillor Mrs Patricia Turner MBE	PT
Mayor Dave Hodgson	DH
Mike Nussbaum	MN

## **SEMLEP aims to**

- attract new growth to the area
- remove barriers to growth
- deliver growth effectively and speedily
- grow ourselves in a sustainable and cost effective way

## **SEMLEP will determine successful impact by measuring achievement of the following outcomes<sup>1</sup>**

- number of net new jobs delivered in the South East Midlands
- number of new jobs created through inward investment in SEMLEP's showcase sectors<sup>2</sup>
- number of new businesses and social enterprises successfully operating in the South East Midlands
- number of homes completed in the South East Midlands
- successful delivery of key infrastructure projects as agreed in the South East Midlands Local Infrastructure Plan
- extent of the availability of super fast broadband throughout the South East Midlands
- increase in skills levels in secondary, further and higher education in the South East Midlands
- growth in Gross Value Added (GVA) per head in SEMLEP relative to other LEPs
- effectiveness and reputation of collective leadership provided by local authority and private sector partners of SEMLEP

<sup>1</sup> specific measures for the above will be determined against a baseline for each outcome

<sup>2</sup> advanced technology & manufacturing, creative industries, green economy, high performance engineering, logistics and visitor economy

## SEMLEP in a nutshell

1. SINGLE PURPOSE

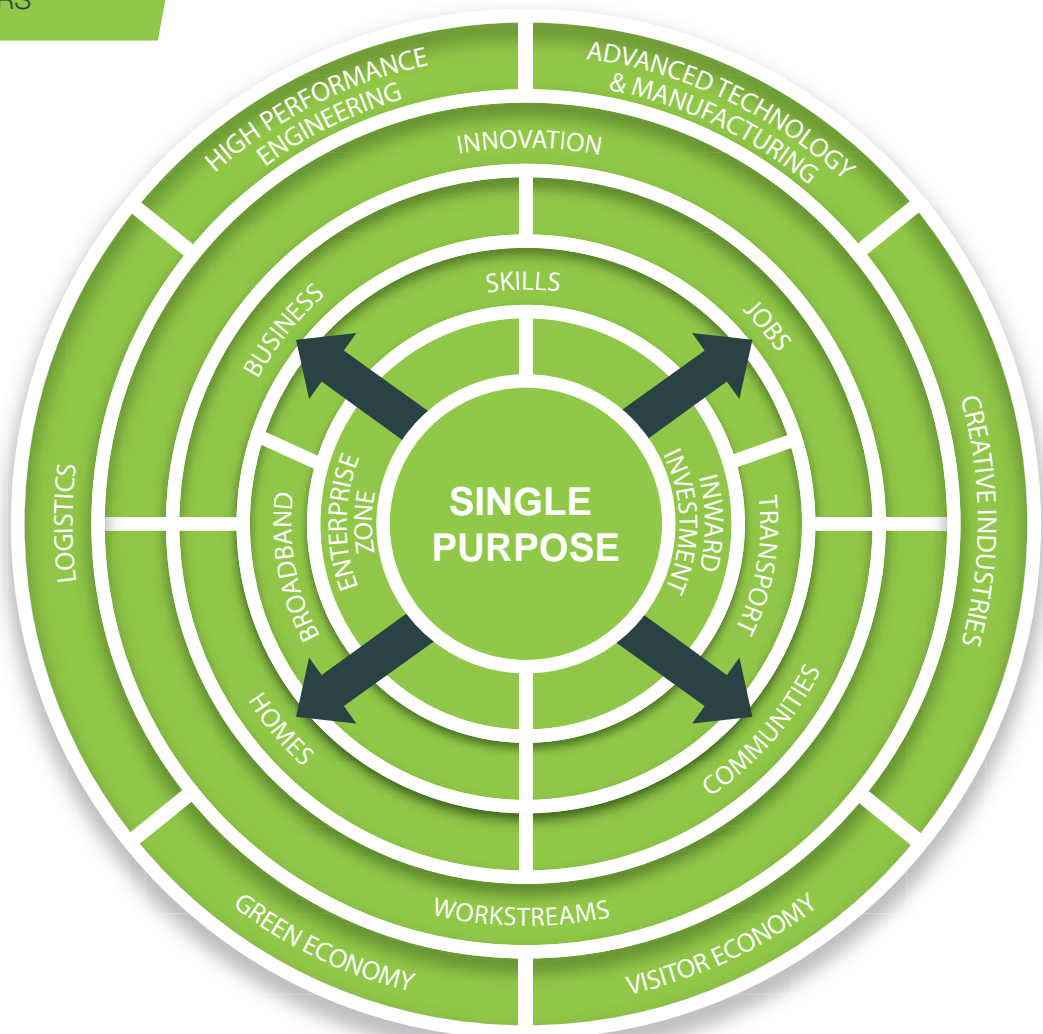
2. KEY PROJECTS -ENTERPRISE ZONE  
AND INWARD INVESTMENT

3. ENABLING ACTIVITIES

4. IMPACT POINTS

5. INNOVATION STREAMS

6. SHOWCASE SECTORS



## KEY OBJECTIVES AND TARGETS APRIL 2012-MARCH 2013

### Objective 1.

To ensure that the SEMLEP Northampton Waterside Enterprise Zone successfully delivers its initial targets for new jobs and businesses by March 2013

**SEMLEP Board strategic champion** for the SEMLEP Northampton Waterside Enterprise Zone  
**Cllr David Mackintosh**

#### Targets to be achieved by March 2013

- deliver 500 net new jobs in SEMLEP Northampton Waterside Enterprise Zone
- create 50 new businesses that are successfully operating in SEMLEP Northampton Waterside Enterprise Zone

#### Actions to be undertaken between April 2012-March 2013

- provide effective leadership to, and high level programme management of, the SEMLEP Northampton Waterside Enterprise Zone project to support Northampton Borough Council and their partners in delivery of the Enterprise Zone plan, particularly focussing on development of a robust financial model and effective marketing plan
- devise and agree ways that the Enterprise Zone adds value to and helps bring success to all parts of the South East Midlands LEP and to neighbouring LEPs
- scrutinise delivery of the Enterprise Zone implementation plan and give appropriate support to Northampton Borough Council and their partners to take action if delivery falls behind schedule
- propose and agree a mechanism for determining priorities, allocating and sharing across SEMLEP revenue derived from the Enterprise Zone's enhanced business rates
- act as ambassadors for the SEMLEP Northampton Waterside Enterprise Zone by using our business networks and collective spheres of influence to publicise its existence and aspirations and to advocate its wider benefits to the South East Midlands and the UK as a whole



## KEY OBJECTIVES AND TARGETS APRIL 2012-MARCH 2013

### Objective 2.

To attract new overseas business into the South East Midlands through accelerated delivery of all SEMLEP local authorities inward investment plans

**SEMLEP Board strategic champion** for inward investment

**Mayor Dave Hodgson**

#### Targets to be achieved by March 2013

- analyse and evaluate the operation of agreed arrangements that have been put in place for inward investment across the South East Midlands
- identify and recommend for adoption ways in which these arrangements could be further enhanced for the benefit of partners and the South East Midlands area as a whole

#### Actions to be undertaken between April 2012-March 2013

- operate and monitor the agreed collective way of working for inward investment enquires, marketing activities and delivery across SEMLEP and where relevant across neighbouring LEPS, to achieve the growth in new businesses locating in the area

## KEY OBJECTIVES AND TARGETS APRIL 2012-MARCH 2013

### Objective 3.

To facilitate investment in key new physical infrastructure to unlock short and medium term development across SEMLEP

**SEMLEP Board strategic champions** for physical infrastructure

**Cllr Roy Davis (Transport)**

**John Corrigan (Property Development)**

#### Targets to be achieved by March 2013

- use the opportunities provided by the Growing Places Fund (GPF), and any other government initiatives, to demonstrate our capacity to lead strategically and to deliver speedily by taking bold decisions on infrastructure development that are to the benefit of all partners in the South East Midlands LEP in the medium term

#### Actions to be undertaken between April 2012-March 2013

- draw up a SEMLEP Local Infrastructure Plan identifying and prioritising key infrastructure projects whose delivery will accelerate growth in jobs, businesses and homes across the area
- implement a programme and project management approach to investment of the £12.7m Growing Places Fund and by working with the private sector, in particular with the Property Development, Investment and Infrastructure Delivery Group (PDIIDG) create a revolving SEMLEP Local Infrastructure Fund for both short and medium term use
- encourage maintenance of the 'open borders' philosophy and implement a policy of cross boundary cooperation between local authorities and LEPs to ensure that planning consents, the provision of utilities and other necessary arrangements to accelerate delivery of infrastructure are in place as quickly and efficiently as possible
- influence national investment in key transport routes of strategic importance for the SE Midlands and provide continuing support for East West Rail

## KEY OBJECTIVES AND TARGETS APRIL 2012-MARCH 2013

### Objective 4.

To facilitate investment in key digital infrastructure to accelerate development across SEMLEP

**SEMLEP Board strategic champion** for digital infrastructure  
**Cllr Mike Edmonds**

#### Targets to be achieved by March 2013

- analyse the existing coverage of next generation access (NGA) broadband across the SE Midlands
- identify ways in which coverage can be increased, particularly in rural areas and for the benefit of businesses and the digitally excluded

#### Actions to be undertaken between April 2012-March 2013

- lead the development of a SEMLEP wide strategy for delivering next generation access (NGA) broadband, using a SEMLEP Board strategic champion to shepherd resources and bring together key players to accelerate progress and improve connectivity
- explore ways in which greater innovation in working practices can be achieved through wider and quicker access to NGA broadband

## KEY OBJECTIVES AND TARGETS APRIL 2012-MARCH 2013

### Objective 5.

To work with the secondary, further, higher, voluntary and community, and private sector education and training providers across SEMLEP to ensure skills outcomes match business and social enterprise needs

**SEMLEP Board strategic champions** for skills **Dr Ann Limb**

**SEMLEP Board strategic champion** for voluntary and community sector **Dr Mike Nussbaum**

**SEMLEP Board strategic champion** for social enterprise **Steve Judge**

### Targets to be achieved by March 2013

- establish a methodology through which SEMLEP can derive the maximum resources for the range of providers in our area in the new era of outcome related funding

### Actions to be undertaken between April 2012-March 2013

- working with and through the existing further education and private training providers, South East Midlands Universities (SEMU), local authority officers, the Skills Funding Agency (SFA), relevant Sector Skills Councils (SSCs) and other appropriate bodies, SEMLEP will develop a SEMLEP wide Funding Skills Outcomes Plan that defines the range of fundable outcomes that match SEMLEP's business needs and maximises revenue available to providers to raise skills levels across the area

## KEY OBJECTIVES AND TARGETS APRIL 2012-MARCH 2013

### Objective 6.

To support all SEMLEP local authorities to deliver their economic development plans and related activities designed to stimulate growth, engage with business and enhance SEMLEPS reputation in its showcase sectors

**SEMLEP Board strategic champion** for Business Engagement **Cheryl Smart**

**SEMLEP Board strategic champions** for showcase sectors

**Advanced Manufacturing and Technology: Walter Greaves**

**Creative Industries: Steve Judge**

**Green Economy: Cllr Tricia Turner**

**High Performance Engineering: Richard Phillips**

**Visitor Economy: Tom Wells**

**Logistics: Cllr Mary Clarke**

### Targets to be achieved by March 2013

- identify and benchmark the number of existing jobs<sup>1</sup> in each of the local authority areas of the South East Midlands, particularly in SEMLEP's showcase sectors, to create an agreed baseline for reliable measurement of new net jobs created over the three year period and implement this across SEMLEP
- increase the number of net new jobs by 1% above the national average

### Actions to be undertaken between April 2012-March 2013

- coordinate programmes of work SEMLEP undertakes with local authority elected members, Chief Executives and local authority officers in order to promote and accelerate implementation of their economic development and related activities
- champion examples of good practice of local authority engagement with businesses and encourage these to be shared and adopted more widely across SEMLEP focussing on opportunities in both urban and rural areas
- work with the business community, through the Business Engagement Group (BEG), led by the Board strategic champion for business engagement, to involve businesses actively in private sector-led business growth across the South East Midlands
- organise an annual BIG (Business Innovation and Growth) Conference to raise the profile, extent, success and ambition of economic development activities across the South East Midlands

<sup>1</sup> latest available data source is Annex E SEMLEP Proposition & Business Case September 2010

# SEMLEP

South East Midlands  
Local Enterprise Partnership



## Mixed Sources

Product group from well-managed forests, controlled sources and recycled wood or fiber

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