

**STATEMENT OF CO-OPERATION AND PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN BUCKS
THAMES VALLEY LOCAL ENTERPRISE PARTNERSHIP AND SOUTH EAST
MIDLANDS LOCAL ENTERPRISE PARTNERSHIP**

Bucks Thames Valley Local Enterprise Partnership (BTVLEP) and South East Midlands Local Enterprise Partnership (SEMLEP) agree to work together on aspects of our functional economic areas that will benefit from the adoption of a collaborative approach.

We identify these areas as:

1. sharing and exchanging economic data and any other appropriate and relevant resources that are not of a commercially sensitive nature
2. holding early discussions on funding bids and supporting each other's bids where this makes sense
3. undertaking joint initiatives such as influencing national government on shared priorities for transport or other major infrastructure issues of common interest
4. collaborating on other matters where economic development policies or initiatives benefit from taking a holistic approach

This agreement is based on trust and on the shared belief that co-operation and effective partnering will be carried through in practice by all involved in BTVLEP and SEMLEP. In so doing, we will all seek to act within the framework of the UK code of Corporate Governance and will abide by the seven principles of public life (Nolan principles)

This agreement also recognises that occasions may arise when:

- BTVLEP or SEMLEP may wish to pursue collaborative work with other areas without the involvement of each other;

- there are matters for which a competitive approach adopted separately by BTVLEP and SEMLEP is appropriate; or
- it is unclear because of its geographic coverage whether a policy or initiative should be led by SEMLEP or BTVLEP.

If such occasions arise, the Chairs, following consultation with members of their LEP, will discuss the issue and subsequently seek conformation from their Boards and Executive teams of decisions agreed, acting within the framework of the UK code of Corporate Governance and in accordance with the seven principles of public life (Nolan principles) .

This agreement will be reviewed regularly, and a minimum annually, at Chair, Board and Executive team level meetings in order to monitor its implementation. In the unlikely case that co-operation should break down the Chairs of the two LEP Boards will take action to resolve any issues.

SIGNED by



Name: Alex Pratt

Position: Chair

Date: 2 March 2012

for and on behalf of BUCKS THAMES VALLEY LOCAL ENTERPRISE PARTNERSHIP

SIGNED by



Name: Dr Ann G Limb OBE DL

Position: Chair

Date:

for and on behalf of SOUTH EAST MIDLANDS LOCAL ENTERPRISE PARTNERSHIP