****

No. 013.19 1 April 2019

**N E W S R E L E A S E**

**New chapter for Buckinghamshire Thames Valley**

**Local Enterprise Partnership**

[Buckinghamshire Thames Valley Local Enterprise Partnership](https://www.buckstvlep.co.uk/) (BTVLEP) are delighted to confirm that an exciting new chapter for BTVLEP has commenced with its formal establishment as [a new company limited by guarantee](https://beta.companieshouse.gov.uk/company/11912208), to further strengthen partnership and help deliver prosperity for Buckinghamshire.

Andrew M. Smith, Chair of Buckinghamshire Thames Valley Local Enterprise Partnership, said: “Incorporation of BTVLEP signifies the start of a new chapter for us, building on the recent board recruitments and our exceptional annual review results. In addition, the new incorporated structure has been established to ensure that BTVLEP continues to meet expected standards of openness and transparency from Government.”

Incorporation comes on the back of another successful year for top performing BTVLEP, who recently celebrated their achievements and previewed 2019’s plans at their inaugural AGM. In the past 12 months BTVLEP [Local Growth Fund](https://www.buckstvlep.co.uk/our-projects/local-growth-fund-projects/) investment has helped support new educational facilities at the world-leading National Film and Television School, Buckinghamshire College Group sites, and the new Vinson Centre for Entrepreneurship at the University of Buckingham, along with investment in infrastructure projects such as High Wycombe Town Centre Master Plan. This performance has enabled BTVLEP to be graded ‘excellent’ for delivery in the Government’s annual assessment of Local Enterprise Partnerships.

**more…**

**New chapter for Buckinghamshire Thames Valley LEP: 2**

In addition to this performance, BTVLEP have also strengthened their Board with the appointment of five new private sector members to its Board, Philippa Batting from [Buckinghamshire Business First](https://bbf.uk.com/), Alistair Lomax from the [University of Buckingham](https://www.buckingham.ac.uk/), Hiren Gandhi from [Blaser Mills](https://www.blasermills.co.uk/person/hiren-gandhi/) Law, Adrian Brown from the [Berkeley](https://www.berkeleygroup.co.uk/) Group, and Prof Rebecca Bunting, Education Consultant. [BTVLEP](file:///\\file05\belp$\Bucks%20Thames%20Valley%20LEP\Communications\E-shots\March%202019\Buckinghamshire%20Thames%20Valley%20Local%20Enterprise%20Partnership) is recognised by Government to be a high-performing LEP, and these new board appointments support the continued growth of the Buckinghamshire economy and help businesses to flourish locally and internationally.

BTVLEP have also embraced the opportunity to work with Government in delivering one of the first trailblazing [Local Industrial Strategies](https://www.buckstvlep.co.uk/our-strategies/local-industrial-strategy/) in the country, to help drive the Buckinghamshire economy to further increase innovation, support international trade and improve connectivity to help businesses deliver their full economic potential.

BTVLEP is a business-led Local Enterprise Partnership which promotes economic growth and prosperity across Buckinghamshire. Buckinghamshire is a significant wealth generator for the UK economy, and the commitment of over £73m in Local Growth Funds is unleashing ambition and creativity in the county. This funding is enabling the delivery of new road and rail infrastructure, better skills and business opportunities and enhanced digital connectivity to support sustainable economic growth in the county which sits at the heart of the Oxford-Cambridge Arc.

**Ends**

**Note to editors**

The [**Buckinghamshire Thames Valley Local Enterprise Partnership**](http://buckstvlep.co.uk/) (BTVLEP) is a business-led ‘partnership of equals’ between local government and the private sector, building the conditions for sustainable economic growth in the County.

[**Buckinghamshire Business First**](http://www.bbf.uk.com/) (BBF), is the Growth Hub for Buckinghamshire and is backed by Buckinghamshire based entrepreneurs, thousands of SMEs and Local Authorities.  BBF provides the link between public policy and the business community in Buckinghamshire and works with partners to create a dynamic business environment in the Entrepreneurial Heart of Britain.

For further information please contact:

Richard Burton

Communications Manager

T: 01494 927160

M: 07866 492292

E: richard.burton@btvlep.co.uk