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

# **£7.7m allocated to Bucks to Get Building**

[Buckinghamshire Local Enterprise Partnership](https://www.buckstvlep.co.uk/) (Bucks LEP) is delighted to announce, following approval today from the Secretary of State for Housing Communities and Local Government, the allocation of [£7.7m of the Governments *Getting Building Fund*](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/906573/GBF_Summary_Bucks.pdf) to four keys projects to support economic growth in Buckinghamshire.

Minister for Regional Growth and Local Government Simon Clarke MP said: “We want to build back better to fuel a green economic recovery across the country by investing in infrastructure, creating jobs and building the homes people need.

“That is why, we are investing £900 million in shovel-ready projects through our Getting Building Fund, including £7.7m for four projects in the Bucks LEP area. This funding will unlock homes, create new jobs and deliver investment in commercial and green spaces and a much-needed boost to the local economy.”

Andrew M. Smith, Chair of Buckinghamshire Local Enterprise Partnership, said:

“We are delighted the announce that Bucks LEP has been allocated £7.7m as part of Government’s Getting Building Fund, which will fast-track investment in local projects to accelerate economic growth.

“I am delighted by the speed at which our call for ‘shovel-ready’ projects in Buckinghamshire brought forward a number of high-calibre schemes with the capacity to kick-start growth in the county. This is testament to Buckinghamshire’s resilience and agility.”

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# **£7.7m allocated to Bucks to Get Building: 2**

Lord David Puttnam, the President of the National Film and TV School (NFTS), welcomed the investment which will help secure its long-term growth ambitions at its Beaconsfield site, said: “This investment will be essential in helping the world leading National Film and TV School grow and support the next generation of iconic film-makers and creative talent.

“The NFTS is one of our genuinely world-class creative sector organisations, and the proposed expansion will ensure it continues to provide an unrivalled film education to students from all around the world, and enhance the U.K.'s reputation for filmmaking from our Buckinghamshire headquarters."

Minister of State for Digital and Culture, Caroline Dinenage MP, said: "Our most innovative industries will benefit from the government's investment in Buckinghamshire as part of the plan to help get Britain building. This will strengthen the county's connectivity and creativity, help drive the local economy and support jobs."

The four projects to benefit from this funding, which were approved by the Bucks LEP Board on July 17th, are:

* The Westcott Disruptive Innovative Space Centre (£2m funding),
* National Film & TV School site expansion (£2.99m funding)
* Centre for Artificial Intelligence and iHub Incubation and Innovation at the University of Buckingham (£2m funding), and
* The Rural Broadband Programme - Remote Access Rapid Expansion (£710k funding).

For further details on these projects please [click here](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/906573/GBF_Summary_Bucks.pdf).

In addition to theGetting Building Fund, Bucks LEP has also reallocated the remaining £1.7m of its Local Growth Fund investment to create a total funding allocation of £9.4m to these projects and to also support the Silverstone Sports

**more…**

# **£7.7m allocated to Bucks to Get Building: 3**

Innovation Hub. This will mean that schemes which can be supported through a combination of funds can progress without delay, ensuring that project timescales can be advanced and help ensure that our remaining Local Growth Fund commitments can be delivered by March 2021 and Getting Building Fund projects be delivered by December 2021.

Bucks LEP is a business led Local Enterprise Partnership which promotes economic growth and prosperity across Buckinghamshire. Bucks 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 enhancing digital connectivity to support sustainable economic growth in Bucks, which sits at the heart of the Oxford-Cambridge Arc.

**Ends**

**Note to editors**

The [**Buckinghamshire Local Enterprise Partnership**](http://buckstvlep.co.uk/) (Bucks LEP) 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 the county and is backed by Buckinghamshire-based entrepreneurs, thousands of SMEs, the Buckinghamshire LEP and Buckinghamshire Council. 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.

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