Draft Buckinghamshire Local Enterprise Partnership Business Plan 2021/22



Vision

In 2030 and beyond, Buckinghamshire will be a place where:

- entrepreneurial businesses benefit from the strength of our iconic brands;
- testing, experimentation and commercialisation of new ideas thrive:
- sustained investment in R&D and future technologies drive continuous improvements in productivity.

Mission

To provide the conditions that encourage business to invest, grow and thrive in Buckinghamshire

Our Main Roles and Functions

- Establish the Strategic Framework for Economic Growth
- To Deliver Informed Economic Insight and Support Knowledge Exchange
- To Collaborate Activity and to Influence Effectively
- To Deliver Economic Growth & Future Prosperity
- To Communicate Economic Opportunities Effectively
- To Secure the Resourcing for Sustainable Growth

Key Assets

- Economy Team Bucks Workforce
- Experienced, informed and well-connected Board
- Track record of Programme Delivery
- £73m Local Growth Fund
- 3 Enterprise Zone Sites generating business rate return
- Bucks Business First Growth Hub 13,500 opted in business records giving an extensive reach into 40% of the private sector businesses in Buckinghamshire
- Entrepreneurial and resilient SME Business Base
- Nationally leading Skills Hub Ranked Number 1 In England
- Globally recognised economic assets including Pinewood, Silverstone, Westcott & Stoke Mandeville
- Strategically critical location well connected to the global gateway at Heathrow.

We Will ✓

- be evidence-led;
- be driven by the needs of businesses;
- generate momentum through innovation and an enterprising approach;
- keep asking questions so that we always know what matters most to businesses, our partners and our funders:
- seek opportunities to capitalise on our own and others' strengths:
- share knowledge and latest learning;
- be honest, straightforward and open with feedback for the benefit of improvement;
- maintain high standards;
- encourage collaboration with businesses, our partners and funders so that we grow our collective intellectual capital.

We Will NOT X

- be afraid to speak up for economic development;
- duplicate or compete with the market;
- commit to doing more than we can deliver;
- undertake any activities or projects that do not add value to our core purposes;
- be unclear in our communication;
- hold back when we see opportunities to bring benefit and unlock potential within the Buckinghamshire business community;
- keep knowledge and information to ourselves when it needs to be pushed out to the people through whom it can generate value;
- over-complicate our team structure and organisational practices, which would detract from the clarity of our purposes.

Key Partners

- Buckinghamshire Business First, Bucks Business Group Members and National Business Relationship Organisations
- Buckinghamshire Council
- Neighbouring LEPs and the LEP Network
- University of Buckingham and Bucks New University
- Buckinghamshire Schools & Colleges
- Buckinghamshire Healthcare Trust
- Catapult Network, Innovate UK, KTN, UKSA, Screen Skills
- England's Economic Heartland
- National Govt Cities and Local Growth Unit, BEIS, HMCLG, DIT, DCMS, DfT



Buckinghamshire LEPs planned key areas of activities for 2021/22:

Ensure Full Compliance with National LEP Network Assurance Framework including recruitment of new BLEP Chair and Support LEP Review Progress

Help deliver the National Plan for Growth through strategic alignment with Buckinghamshire strategies in particular the LIS, Economic Recovery Plan and National Space Strategy

Programme Business Case Development ahead of Comprehensive Spending Review as part of Buckinghamshire Recovery & Growth Deal

Complete our Capital Local Growth Fund and Growing Places Fund Investment Programme by March 2022

Complete the 5 year review and implement the delivery plan for phase 2 of Enterprise Zone growth and investment

Supporting the development of the Buckinghamshire Growth Board and help drive the Growth and Recovery Deal process for Buckinghamshire. Strengthen the Team Bucks ethos to Economic Development following elections May 2021

Support the further development of the Aylesbury Garden Town Programme & High Wycombe Town Centre Regeneration Programmes

Deliver the Skills Advisory Report and grow the strength of the Adult Skills programme to match that of the Under 19 activities

Support the Recovery of the Buckinghamshire Economy from the effects of Covid lockdown through the implementation of the Economic Recovery Plan $\,$

Development of a new aligned open access Economic Research & Data Hub and support the development of a w regional GVA & Productivity data assessment.

Support investment in Digital Infrastructure by informing and enabling national private sector collaboration

Review Green Growth Opportunities to be prepared and promoted alongside the national focus on COP26

Buckinghamshire LEPs Key Outputs 2021/22

Support external funding applications in excess of £500m for business-critical infrastructure in Buckinghamshire

Complete 100% (£80m) Local Growth Fund & Getting Building Fund programme expenditure

Deliver 75,000m2 of new Employment Space within Enterprise Zone Sites

Provide 35,000 business assists through the Bucks Business First Growth Hub Service

Maintain top national ranking within the Careers & Enterprise Company Gatsby Benchmarks and provide Enterprise Advisors for all secondary schools in Buckinghamshire. Support 10,000 young people engagements with Skills Festival and Careers Events

Complete 4 Business Barometer Surveys and host a minimum of 12 round-table forums with key businesses and partners to develop insight into the Buckinghamshire economy.

Connect a minimum of 5,000 business and commercial properties to super-fast broadband and increase full-fibre connectivity across Buckinghamshire to 20% of all business premises

Secure Planning approval for 200ha Woodlands site enabling promotion of 20ha of employment land

Increase Innovate UK funding applications by Buckinghamshire businesses by 50% to support national R&D target