

## The Transformative Impact of Buckinghamshire LEP

- **Speaking Out On the Big Issues** - We provided the impetus for the biggest single shake up in Local Government Structures in Buckinghamshire for half a century, enabling the formation of the new **Buckinghamshire Council** in 2021.
- **Enterprise Zones** – 55% of all new commercial and industrial employment space in Buckinghamshire over the past 5 years has been delivered on the LEP managed Enterprise Zone Sites in Aylesbury, Silverstone and Westcott.
- **Growth Support When Really Needed** – With 14,000 active members our **Buckinghamshire Business First Growth Hub** has filled the void and delivered a unified business voice. Over the 12 months from the start of the Covid crisis it provided 65,000 essential business assists and is also the only Growth Hub in England to be **Route to Net Zero** accredited.
- The LEP **Covid Recovery Fund** provided £1.6m directly into business survival, ahead of any government support and the first LEP in the country to act. The impact is clear, all 62 businesses supported are still trading, 197 new jobs have already been created & 258 safeguarded. A thorough vetting process overseen by the LEP Board **eliminated waste** and **prevented fraud**.
- Our **Skills Hub** are ranked number 1 in the country by the Careers and Enterprise Company. We are the first area in the country to have **Enterprise Advisors Active in every State School** in the country and our annual Skills Show is the biggest single skills event in the South East of England.
- **We have delivered over £100m of Local Growth Investment** into critical business infrastructure and support networks supporting 30 projects providing educational facilities, innovation clusters, transport and critical digital infrastructure.
- We are one of the first LEPs in England to establish an **open-access data observatory** collating and sharing all of the latest economic data for the **Bucks Economy**.
- **Supporting transformative projects** - The support from Bucks LEP was instrumental for the growth of **Pinewood Studios** helping the UK film industry to grow by 18% in the last 5 years.
- **We don't give up** – Like Robert the Bruce, we try and try again to do the right thing for the Buckinghamshire Economy – after 5 years of persistence we will secure the planning approval for **Aylesbury Woodlands - going where others fear to tread**.
- **We have invested wisely** - Our capital programme funds have been recycled, investment loans have been repaid and Enterprise Zone income secured to enable Bucks LEP to operate **independently** of government support if necessary.