

By Email

14th November 2018

Andrew Lee
Director of Countryside, Policy and Management
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Dear Andrew

Enterprise M3 Local Enterprise Partnership – Statement on Working Relationship between EM3 LEP and SDNPA

This letter is a demonstration of the strong working relationship between Enterprise M3 Local Enterprise Partnership and the South Downs National Park Authority.

Enterprise M3 Local Enterprise Partnership is an alliance between business and the public sector, with national parks, such as the South Downs, as a key partner of the LEP. The LEP sets the strategic economic thinking that shapes its area, pitches for government funds, generates private sector investment, and helps local businesses to start, grow, export and access skilled talent. In short, we transform their local economies with the regeneration of town centre being a key component of this.

Enterprise M3 is one of the most successful LEPs in England and a national economic asset. It is the sixth largest LEP in terms of GVA. It contributes 2.9% of the UK's annual economic output, clearly punching above its weight. The Enterprise M3 region, has an advanced knowledge-based, digital economy that for public and private investors will deliver a high return.

The LEP is charged with a mandate to support and drive economic development and growth. The development areas targeted are laid out in our newly refreshed strategic economic plan which can be found here https://enterprisem3.org.uk/strategic-economic-plan.

South Downs National Park has been a partner in helping to shape the Enterprise M3 LEPs Strategic Economic Plan and will continue to be so as we develop our Local Industrial Strategy. An important element of this will be helping to ensure we maximise the value of natural capital in the area, where the National Park in particular will have a key role to play. In turn the LEP is keen to help the South

Downs National Park develop a robust Local Plan and looking forward to contributing to complementary work on the Partnership Management Plan and its programme of works to ensure that a strong and appropriate economy continues to flourish in the area.

Yours sincerely,

Kevin Travers

Head of Transport Enterprise M3 LEP

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