SOUTH EAST MIDLANDS LEP (SEMLEP) GETTING BUILDING FUND

The Government is making £900 million available through the new Getting Building Fund (GBF) for investment in local, shovel-ready infrastructure projects to stimulate jobs and support economic recovery across the country. The **South East Midlands LEP (SEMLEP)** has been allocated **£27.3m** from the GBF for a wide-ranging package of projects that will deliver a much-needed boost to the local economy.

In SEMLEP, the funding will deliver an innovative programme of projects to meet the priorities set out in the area's Local Industrial Strategy and the needs of the local economy as it recovers from the impacts of Covid-19, including:

- **Support to businesses through new start up and scale up support, direct investments in innovative businesses, new R&D and start up space.**

- **Promoting SEMLEP's vision for a green recovery through projects focussed on energy, energy efficiency, recycling, sustainable travel and sustainable construction skills.**

- **Investment in young people and skills through capital investments in Further Education colleges and provision of a new, innovative online learning platform.**

- **Investment in town centre regeneration and community resilience, including new cultural and community assets.**

Indicative outputs[1]

Direct Jobs Created	490
Construction Jobs Created	560
Jobs Safeguarded	180
Houses Unlocked	260
Commercial Space Unlocked (sqm)	19,910
New Learning Space Unlocked (sqm)	9,840
New Learners Assisted	2,350
Businesses Assisted	580
R&D Floorspace (sqm)	600
Public Realm/ Green Space Created	23,080
CO2 emissions saved (kg)	50,714,720

Summary of projects

Project	Description
Barnfield / West Herts College **Luton**	The redevelopment of Barnfield College's New Bedford Road campus will provide a new modern 6,000 sqm FE facility, creating learning space better suited to modern courses. It will also rationalise the existing estate and provide land for 110 new family homes.
Flitwick Transport Interchange	This project will create a multi modal public transport interchange at the existing Flitwick rail station. The interchange will enable full integration across different modes of transport, deliver new passenger facilities, increase modal shifts from private vehicles to sustainable travel and support regeneration of the station area.

[1] The outputs listed are locally reported and will undergo further quality assurance before being finalised and confirmed in grant offer letters

Electrical Supply to Millbrook Proving Ground	This project will enable the further expansion automotive testing facilities at Millbrook Proving Ground by upgrading the power supply, allowing for an expansion of onsite employment activity.
Modern Methods of Construction (MMC) **Bedford**	This project will update the facilities available at Bedford College to teach Modern Methods of Construction (MMC), funding a new curriculum and redevelopment of the existing construction teaching facility.
Innovate Recycling **East Northamptonshire**	This project will support a breakthrough technology, recycling end of life polypropylene carpet, enable c.4400 tons of waste carpet that would otherwise have gone to land fill to be recycled in the first plant to be developed in Northamptonshire.
Business Resilience and Recovery Grant Scheme	The Business Resilience and Recovery Scheme will provide support to businesses in the South East Midlands that have been affected by the Covid-19 and are looking at ways to recover and strengthen their business performance - including enabling ways to innovate and diversify.
MK:U – Start Up to Scale Up Programme **Milton Keynes**	Building on the MK:U Accelerator, due to open in 2021, this project will create an Innovation Hub in Milton Keynes, known as the Smart City Living Lab (SCLL), providing education and support to scale start-up businesses via the MK:U Start Up to Scale Up Programme, focussing on smart city technologies.
Rockingham Clean Energy Hub	This project will provide state of the art clean energy assets which will provide power to the Rockingham Automotive Logistics Hub, supporting the UK's first large scale energy EV logistics hub and position the local area as an exemplar of clean, renewable energy management and electric vehicle distribution.
Artificial Intelligence Maths and English Learning Platform **Bedford, Central Bedfordshire, Wellingborough, Corby and Kettering.**	This project will deliver a new learning platform that enables the improved learning of Maths and English. The aims of the project are to improve the achievement rate of learners undertaking Maths and English qualifications, improve the digital skills and improve teacher efficiency and wellbeing.
GLaM (Kettering Gallery, Library and Museum)	Revitalising and extending the Kettering Gallery, Library and Museum (GLaM) to become a cultural anchor which provides a blend of cultural amenity, work/exhibition space and teaching facilities.
NN Contemporary Gallery Relocation & Renovation **Northampton**	Relocating and refurbishing the NN Contemporary Art, an art space in the centre of Northampton's Cultural Quarter. The project will create an attractive and innovative contemporary public space, complimenting wider investments focused on the long-term health and sustainability of the town centre.
Bedford Green Energy Innovation Park	Located on a 30-ha former landfill site, this exemplar model within the Oxford-Cambridge Arc will generate green, low carbon, clean energy to encourage others to reduce carbon emissions, adopt innovative technologies, and improve air quality.

SEMLEP will be expected to deliver the agreed projects but will have flexibility to deliver the greatest economic benefits to the area. Any significant changes to the projects should be

discussed with the Government in advance, and all investment decisions must be undertaken in line with locally agreed audit and scrutiny arrangements.