****

No. 003.18 6 June 2018

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

**Conference to set out economic growth opportunities**

**in the Oxford-Cambridge Corridor**

On the 21st June, prominent business and public-sector leaders will come together in Milton Keynes for the Oxford Cambridge Corridor Economic Growth Conference - the region’s largest business conference of the year – which is supported by [Buckinghamshire Thames Valley Local Enterprise Partnership](https://www.buckstvlep.co.uk/) (BTVLEP),

the National Infrastructure Commission, England’s Economic Heartland and regional and local authorities.

The conference, hosted by Built Environment Networking and in association with Bouygues Energies & Services, will see some of the region’s biggest names in business, politics and local government lead a regional economic debate including discussions on industrial strategy, skills, housing, infrastructure and growing the economy. The corridor represents a phenomenal opportunity for the regions and will create opportunities, connectivity and communication between cities to drive economic development and growth. Speakers include:

* Richard Harrington; Chief Executive of Buckinghamshire Thames Valley LEP
* Prof Sadie Morgan; Commissioner of National Infrastructure Commission
* Ann Limb; Chair of South East Midlands LEP
* Sir Peter Gregson; Chief Executive & Vice-Chancellor of Cranfield University

**more…**

**Conference to set out economic growth opportunities: 2**

* Iain Stewart MP; Member of Parliament for Milton Keynes South
* Mary Parsons; Group Director at Places for People
* Martin Tett; Chair of England’s Economic Heartland and Leader at Buckinghamshire County Council

The day-long event will provide a unique opportunity for delegates to hear about the collaborative approach to economic growth from the public and private sectors.

Richard Harrington, Chief Executive, Buckinghamshire Thames Valley Local Enterprise Partnership, said: “Buckinghamshire has many world leading businesses and business clusters operating at the heart of the Oxford to Cambridge Growth Corridor. Many of these, including Robert Bosch, Silverstone, GE Healthcare, Johnson & Johnson, Boundless Productions & Pinewood Studios are operating at the heart of the automotive technologies, life-science and creative industry sectors and will be critical in delivering the success of the growth corridor.”

Richard added: “In addition, we have shared our growth plans with the National Infrastructure Commission and Government and we continue to work with our local partners to evolve our growth delivery strategies and plans for the corridor.”

Keith Griffiths, MD of Built Environment Networking said: ‘’The long-awaited transport links between Oxford and Cambridge will not only improve connectivity and communication between the cities and those in-between, but it will provide the infrastructure to drive economic development and growth. The area could support a further 700,000 jobs by 2050, increasing GVA by more than £160bn. We’re delighted to be holding this conference, with the support of the National Infrastructure Commission and England’s Economic Heartland, to join businesses together who are essential to making this a success story.’’

**more…**

**Conference to set out economic growth opportunities: 3**

For more information or to book tickets to the event on the 21st June 2018 please visit: [www.built-environment-networking.com/OCCEGC18](http://www.built-environment-networking.com/OCCEGC18) and for media enquiries please contact Nathan Spencer on [nathan.spencer@built-environment-networking.com](mailto:nathan.spencer@built-environment-networking.com).

Buckinghamshire is the Entrepreneurial Heart of Britain where, for well over a decade, more businesses have started here than anywhere else in the UK. This is borne of the heartbeat of enterprise, which is manifest in a propensity to act; and a

propensity to successfully exploit new ideas. It is no accident that we are the Birthplace of the Paralympics at Stoke Mandeville, the creative film engine for James Bond and Star Wars at Pinewood Studios, and the joint home of the Silverstone Grand Prix Circuit. 

**Ends**

**Note to editors**

The [**Buckinghamshire Thames Valley Local Enterprise Partnership**](http://buckstvlep.co.uk/) (BTVLEP) 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 Buckinghamshire and is backed by Buckinghamshire based entrepreneurs, thousands of SMEs and Local Authorities.  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.

For further information please contact:

Richard Burton

Communications Manager

T: 01494 927160

M: 07866 492292

E: richard.burton@btvlep.co.uk