



Midlands Engine Innovation & Enterprise Group - Terms of Reference

1.0 Purpose

ME Innovation and Enterprise Group is to support operational delivery of the Vision for Growth, to drive innovation and enterprise and to improve productivity and competitiveness across our region.

2.0 Membership

The ME Innovation & Enterprise Group comprises a number of senior representatives from the Midlands Engine Partnership.

Membership will be reviewed every 2 years or following individual/organisational changes. Membership representation is set out below:

Chair Iain Gillespie, University of Leicester.

- Universities (2 representatives)
- Enterprise Business Partners (2 representatives)
- Private Sector Partners (2 representatives)
- Cities and Local Growth and BEIS
- Science Parks and Catapults (2 representatives)
- Midlands Engine Secretariat/Executive Team

Secretariat: Anna Cooke

3.0 Meetings

Meetings will be quorate when there is 2/3rds of membership in attendance. The basis of decisions will be by a vote of a majority of attending members, if a consensus cannot be reached. Agenda will be circulated at least seven days before each meeting.

4.0 Main duties

The Midlands Engine Innovation & Enterprise Group will:

- I. To provide leadership and strategic thinking to the Midlands Engine Operating Board on Innovation & Enterprise activity, making recommendations for future direction.
- II. To act as a conduit between business and our partnership focusing on R&D Collaborations that address current and future challenges to productivity and growth within the region.
- III. Be the main point of engagement for relevant Government departments and delivery agencies on policy.
- IV. To share best practice, communicate the Innovation & Enterprise work of ME and act as advocates for the ME Partnership with the wider Innovation & Enterprise ecosystems.
- V. To work with combined authorities, LEPs, local councils, Universities and other bodies to share existing initiatives and add value on a Midlands-wide basis.
- VI. Maintain strong links to the other thematic groups to ensure cohesive thinking around commercialisation and skills.
- VII. Look to connect the partnership and wider business to funding through MEIF, UKRI and other funding streams.
- VIII. To review expressions of interest to the ME Strategic Programme Development Fund and support those applications that align to Innovation & Enterprise Group priorities.
- IX. Support activities that strengthen our innovation and enterprise infrastructure.

5.0 Reporting procedures

The Innovation & Enterprise Group will provide regular updates to the Midlands Engine Operating board.