

## Heart of the South West Local Enterprise Partnership

### LEP Board Paper 6 a)

**Report title:** Innovation Board update

**Date:** 10<sup>th</sup> January 2021

**Purpose:** This paper is for **noting**

(overwhelming papers should be for decision)

**Link to LIS:** Indicate by **bolding** which area the paper links to.

Inclusive Growth		Clean growth		
Energy		Engineering		Digital
<b>Ideas/ Innovation</b>	People/Skills	Infrastructure	Bus. Environment	Places

**Non- LIS purpose:** n/a.

**Timing:** ongoing

**Financial Impact:** (cost or cost saving): none at present

**Decisions requested:** none at present

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#### Summary

Following approval of the proposals set out at the November board meeting, focus has moved on to realisation of the measures set out.

We are advised by the MIT REAP team that we are the furthest ahead of the participating regions, and also that there may be funding opportunities arising from central government which our proposals, particularly for the virtual Technopole, could match.

#### MIT's Regional Entrepreneurship Programme

The Heart of the South West team met twice with the MIT REAP core team during December. The process which commenced a year ago is now moving towards its conclusion with a final two day workshop in early February.

We are the furthest advanced of the participating regions, the only one with a completed proposal at the point of the last meetings. Feedback from the MIT team has been favourable, with a request to use our outputs as exemplars for groups elsewhere in the world.

The next steps for the Innovation Board are:

- completion of the REAP process;
- meeting with the universities to map out an approach beyond the remit of the MIT work;
- working up initial proposals for the Technopole and for the specialisation in marine and environmental intelligence;
- allocating and progressing the other agreed action points.