

## About the Thames Valley and Buckinghamshire Chamber Council

Thames Valley is the UK's true turbo-economy; the most successful economic region outside of London for attracting inward investment and a significant origin of export-orientated trading companies. Buckinghamshire Chamber represents businesses of all sizes, including a high proportion of small and medium-sized enterprises, reflecting the County's diverse business structure.

## Aim and Objective

Endorsed by the region's only accredited Chamber, the Thames Valley Chamber of Commerce, this statement summarises the core local policy priorities the Buckinghamshire Chamber will support throughout 2019. The objective is to ensure that politicians, public policymakers and other key stakeholders understand what the business community in the area consider important and decision makers should focus on delivering. It is also an invitation to those partners to engage with business and the local Chamber Council to help shape, frame and deliver solutions that will secure the economic prosperity of the local area and wider Thames Valley region.



## Local Policy Priorities

The Chamber Council has identified several local policy priorities:

- Engage business to make sure Government is aware of their ambient and future needs pre and post leaving the European Union; to lobby for a 'business-friendly' BREXIT.
- Collaborate with the relevant key stakeholders to ensure the Chamber's membership, and wider voice of business, is represented in developing strategy and policy.
- Advocate for the strengthening of regional infrastructure networks, specifically:
  - Communicating the benefits of Western Rail Link to Heathrow (WRLTH);
  - Maintaining support for the timely expansion of Heathrow Airport;
  - Securing the expeditious delivery of the Elizabeth Line and M4 smart motorway.
- Encourage investment into the Enterprise Zone sites and Cambridge-Milton Keynes-Oxford Growth Corridor.
- Ensure that the County towns continue to have the appropriate financial injection to manage, maintain and improve services and associated infrastructure.
- Promote the sector strengths of Buckinghamshire, including the life sciences and healthcare, advanced engineering and creative industries, for the area to remain an investment destination of choice; to challenge the relevant public authorities to actively engage in foreign direct investment activity.
- Maintain support to existing exporters and help new businesses grow their trade activity.
- Foster stronger business-focused relationships with all levels of education.



**Mike Watson**

President, Buckinghamshire Chamber Council



**Paul Britton**

Chief Executive, TVCC

[www.thamesvalleychamber.co.uk](http://www.thamesvalleychamber.co.uk)

