

## Ann Limb Biography



Business leader and social entrepreneur, Dr Ann Limb OBE DL [www.annlimb.co.uk](http://www.annlimb.co.uk) is Chair of the South East Midlands Local Enterprise Partnership (SEMLEP) [www.semlep.com](http://www.semlep.com) one of 39 private - sector led economic development partnerships (LEPs) set up by the Coalition Government to stimulate innovation, inward investment, economic growth and job creation. SEMLEP is the 7<sup>th</sup> largest LEP in England and comprises eleven local authorities across Aylesbury Vale, Bedfordshire, Cherwell, Northamptonshire, Luton, and Milton Keynes.

Former Principal of Milton Keynes and Cambridge Regional Colleges, Ann was from 2000-2005 Chief Executive of the University for Industry (Ufi Ltd), the organisation behind the successful implementation of the UK government's flagship digital learning initiative **learndirect** [www.learndirect.co.uk](http://www.learndirect.co.uk), and the national e-services UK online [www.ukonlinecentres.co.uk](http://www.ukonlinecentres.co.uk) and Directgov [www.gov.uk](http://www.gov.uk) . From 2005 to 2010, Ann worked as Senior Vice President for the international strategic management consultancy Citizen Service Transformation [www.cstransform.com](http://www.cstransform.com) as well as working as a government adviser both in the UK and overseas.

Ann holds a number of public and private sector non-executive directorships and is Deputy Lieutenant of the county of Buckinghamshire, where she has lived since 1986. Ann is a passionate advocate for Milton Keynes and is Chair of Destination Milton Keynes [www.destinationmiltonkeynes.co.uk](http://www.destinationmiltonkeynes.co.uk) – the city's official tourism and visitor information service. In this capacity, Ann is Chair of the MK Event Partnership Board that was recently successful in bringing the Rugby World Cup 2015 to stadium:mk. As a Trustee of the Stables Theatre, [www.stables.org](http://www.stables.org) Ann also chairs IF, the biennial Milton Keynes International Festival [www.ifmiltonkeynes.org](http://www.ifmiltonkeynes.org).

Ann is chair of two major national educational charities, the Helena Kennedy Foundation, [www.hkf.org.uk](http://www.hkf.org.uk), which she founded in 1998 to promote social mobility in further and higher education and E-ACT [www.e-act.org.uk](http://www.e-act.org.uk), a leading academy sponsor.

In the 2011 Queen's Birthday Honours list, Ann was appointed an Officer of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire - OBE - for her public service and services to education.