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**Report to:** West Yorkshire and York Investment Committee

**Date:** 12 July 2017

**Subject:** Appointment of Investment Panel

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## **1 Purpose**

- 1.1 To appoint an advisory sub-committee of the West Yorkshire and York Investment Committee, the Investment Panel.
- 1.2 To appoint members to the Investment Panel.
- 1.3 To appoint the Chair of the Investment Panel.

## **2 Information**

- 2.1 At its meeting on 7 April, WYCA considered a proposal to integrate LEP Panels into WYCA's decision making structure, in the context of the on-going review of Leeds City Region governance arrangements. WYCA noted the principal advantages of streamlining decision making, having direct private sector involvement in WYCA decision making and increased accountability and transparency. WYCA agreed that the Panels be appointed as WYCA advisory committees or sub committees at the annual meeting, subject to the outcome of further consultation including with the LEP Board and LEP Panel Chairs. The proposal was discussed in detail at the LEP Board meeting on 17 May, and LEP Board unanimously agreed a revised model which integrates LEP Panels into WYCA's decision making structure.
- 2.2 Further to the outcome of the consultation, at its annual meeting on 29 June 2017 WYCA appointed the Business Innovation and Growth Panel, the Employment and Skills Panel, the Green Economy Panel and the Land and Assets Panel as advisory committees to WYCA, to be of effect from 1 September 2017.
- 2.3 In accordance with the proposals considered by WYCA and the subsequent LEP Board, it is now proposed that the LEP's Investment Panel is appointed as an advisory sub-committee by this committee, with effect from 1 September. To enable as smooth a transition as possible, and consistent with the approach adopted in relation to the other Panels, it is proposed that the terms of reference, membership, voting and chairing arrangements for the Panel are not changed at this point in time, although they may be subject to review in due course. It is proposed that the quorum for the Panel would be 4 voting members, including 1 WYCA Member or local authority co-optee, and 1 private sector representative.

- 2.4 The Panel would therefore continue to carry out its current role, in particular carrying out due diligence feeding in directly to this committee; it is proposed that a standing item from the Investment Panel is included on the Investment Committee agenda which will formalise and strengthen links between the Panel and this committee. The terms of reference of the Panel are attached as **Appendix 1** to this report.
- 2.5 The membership of the Panel is set out in **Appendix 2** to this report. Members will note that there are currently two vacancies in respect of the private sector representatives and therefore a recruitment exercise will need to be carried out. It is anticipated that a wider recruitment exercise will be needed for vacancies across the new advisory Panels and the Head of Legal and Governance Services has delegated authority from WYCA to put a process in place to facilitate this. It is proposed that this process includes any recruitment necessary for this Panel, in due course. Any further appointments would be made by this committee.
- 2.6 As a sub-committee of the Investment Committee, the Panel will comply with the usual Access to Information provisions, and voting members will need to comply with the Members' Code of Conduct.

### **3 Financial Implications**

- 3.1 No financial implications arising from the appointment of this committee.

### **4 Legal Implications**

- 4.1 An advisory committee may appoint a sub-committee under S102(4)(b) Local Government Act 1972. Political balance requirements under S15 Local Government and Housing Act 1989 apply to the appointment of WYCA Members to a sub-committee, unless waived by S17 of the 1989 Act.

### **5 Staffing Implications**

- 5.1 No staffing implications arise from the appointment of the Panel.

### **6 External Consultees**

- 6.1 The LEP Board and Panel Chairs considered and endorsed the proposals to integrate LEP Panels into WYCA's decision-making structure. The current Investment Panel were invited to discuss the new arrangements at their meeting on 20 June 2017.

### **7 Recommendations**

- 7.1 To appoint the Investment Panel on the terms of reference set out in Appendix 1 to this report with effect from 1 September 2017, and with a quorum of 4 voting members, to include 1 WYCA Member or local authority co-optee, and 1 private sector representative.

- 7.2 To resolve in accordance with S17 Local Government and Housing Act 1989 to appoint WYCA Members to the Investment Panel, as set out in Appendix 2 to this report, and to appoint other voting members to the Panel as set out in that Appendix.
- 7.3 To appoint Councillor Blake as Chair of the Investment Panel, with effect from 1 September 2017.
- 7.4 To delegate authority to the Head of Legal and Governance Services to facilitate a recruitment exercise in respect of any private sector vacancies arising on the Panel, with any appointments to be made by this committee in due course.
- 7.5 That the Panel meets on the dates set out in the calendar considered by WYCA at the annual meeting.

## **8 Background Documents**

- 8.1 None