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Report to: LEP Board

Date: 19 September 2017

Subject: Autumn Budget Submission

1 Purpose

- 1.1 To seek the LEP Board's input and agreement to the city region's submission to government ahead of the Autumn Budget.

2 Information

- 2.1 The recent Queen's Speech confirmed government's intention to "spread prosperity and opportunity across the country through a new modern industrial strategy". The city region's response to the industrial strategy consultation in spring 2017 was clear that better living standards for all and more balanced growth across the country depend on answering the productivity challenge, backed-up with appropriate support and powers.
- 2.2 Although the reasons for the UK and LCR's poor productivity performance are complex, a bolder, locally-led approach across private and public sectors gives the vital long-term leadership to make progress. The LEP Board's awayday will shape this approach.
- 2.3 It is also important that the city region puts forward to government a bold set of ideas, developed through Panels and in conjunction with local authorities, universities, business groups and other stakeholders. The submission (draft attached as Appendix 1) provides a proposal covering:
- Suggestions for short- and long-term steps to drive inclusive growth outcomes; and,
 - Matters where the city region has relatively strong powers (e.g. through the delivery of an effective business growth programme), alongside topics where there is less local autonomy, such as the business regulatory environment.

3 Recommendations

- 3.1 That the Board provide input on the broad shape of the Autumn Budget submission, and delegate sign-off to the Managing Director, in consultation with the LEP Chair and WYCA Chair.