

INCLUSIVE GROWTH AND PUBLIC POLICY PANEL

**MEETING TO BE HELD AT 2.00 PM ON MONDAY, 15 JUNE 2020
AS A REMOTE MEETING - TO BE LIVESTREAMED HERE:
[HTTPS://WWW.YOUTUBE.COM/CHANNEL/UCAZJNSGPQZZT41VIBN2
ZK9A/LIVE](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCAZJNSGPQZZT41VIBN2ZK9A/LIVE) (COPY AND PASTE INTO YOUR BROWSER)**

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FEB 2020**
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Signed:



**Managing Director
West Yorkshire Combined Authority**

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**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE INCLUSIVE GROWTH AND PUBLIC
POLICY PANEL HELD ON TUESDAY 4 DECEMBER 2018 AT COMMITTEE
ROOM A, WELLINGTON HOUSE, LEEDS**

Present:

Councillor Shabir Pandor (Chair)	Kirklees Council
Councillor Darren Byford	Wakefield Council
Councillor Barry Collins	Calderdale Council
Councillor Debra Coupar	Leeds City Council
Councillor Alex Ross-Shaw	Bradford Council
Nicola Greenan	Creative/Arts

In attendance:

Bill Adams	TUC
Alan Reiss	West Yorkshire Combined Authority
James Flanagan	West Yorkshire Combined Authority
Britta Berger-Voigt	West Yorkshire Combined Authority
Sarah Bowes	West Yorkshire Combined Authority
Steve Heckley	West Yorkshire Combined Authority
Ben Kearns	West Yorkshire Combined Authority

1. Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Keith Aspden, Cathy Scott and Liz Town-Andrews, Mike Hawking.

2. Declarations of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests

There were no pecuniary interests declared by members at the meeting.

3. Possible exclusion of the press and public

There were no items on the agenda requiring the exclusion of the press and public.

4. Minutes of the meeting held on 4 September 2018

Resolved: That the minutes of the Inclusive growth and Public Policy Panel held on the 4 September be approved.

5. Local Inclusive Industrial Strategy and Leeds City Region Policy Framework

The Panel was updated on the development of a Policy Framework and a

Local Inclusive Industrial Strategy for Leeds City Region.

The Panel was informed that government is co-producing industrial strategies in waves and Leeds City Region will be in wave 3. The Panel heard that inclusive growth will be embedded in the Leeds City Region Industrial Strategy.

A draft prospectus had been produced which identified areas for improvement in the existing knowledge base. Gaps in the knowledge base, including productivity, innovation networks and supply chains, will be addressed. The Panel was informed that the approach to the evidence base will be as inclusive as possible with community groups and young people to be involved.

The ongoing work regarding the Local Inclusive Industrial strategy will be reported to the Inclusive Growth Panel in addition to the LEP Board.

Members discussed the Policy Framework and how the inclusive growth strand could apply to the region. Members reiterated a need for a meaningful, well-defined, approach to inclusive growth with a real focus on practical measures. It was felt that a clear definition of inclusive growth would help promote the work of the Panel. The Panel was informed that the Policy Framework would evolve and change and that their comments would be taken on board.

Resolved:

- (i) That the progress made on the development of the evidence base be noted.
- (ii) That the proposed way forward on the development of the evidence base be endorsed.

6. Workshop Report

The Panel discussed the outcomes of their first workshop held in November. The key areas of discussion included good work, digital inclusion and health and these will form part of the Panel's work programme.

Members were pleased with the quality and depth of discussion and looked forward to future workshops. The Panel discussed the opportunity to build on the discussion by visiting sites and projects across the districts. It was felt that this would provide the Panel with the opportunity to further investigate local best practice and see what can be learned or upscaled. The Kirklees community hubs was suggested as a possible example.

It was suggested that officers would report back to the Chair and Chief Executive member with a future workshop program.

Resolved: To note that the Panel held its first workshop in November and that the key points raised and discussions considered in the report and elsewhere on the agenda should inform the Panel's work programme.

7. Digital Inclusion

The Panel considered a report about Digital Inclusion. The Panel was informed that the Digital Framework consultation was endorsed by the LEP board and provided a mandate to address digital inclusion.

The Panel discussed some of the work being carried out across the districts on digital inclusion. In particular, the work Leeds City Council was carrying out with Good Things Foundation was identified as a leading scheme in the area.

The report outlined various possible actions and the Panel discussed possible approaches to address digital inclusion and felt that a better understanding of the regional context was required. This included collecting baseline data so as to more clearly understand the regional picture and to see what can be up scaled from the districts. The Panel requested more detail around the financial impact of the different options outlined in the report as well as likely outcomes at local level. The Panel also requested an update on the progress of the broadband rollout.

Resolved: That the Panel discussed the opportunities around digital inclusion activity and provided a steer on the suggested direction of travel.

8. Health and Healthy Streets

The Panel and workshop had previously considered a number of issues around public health which had been identified as a central part of the inclusive growth agenda, including the need to reduce health inequalities. In relation to this, the Panel was provided with a presentation on the proposed West Yorkshire Healthy Streets initiative which included plans to implement 'demonstration projects' in each of the five districts, with a particular focus on the inclusive growth corridors and driving health improvements.

It was recognised that Healthy Streets encompassed multiple policy agendas, including transport, public health, place making and inclusive growth. The Panel discussed how the Healthy Streets initiative may fit into its work. It was noted that while Healthy Streets sits with the Transport Committee and the individual districts at an operational level, there was an opportunity for the Panel to feed into the design of the proposed demonstrators at a more strategic level, in order, for example, to maximise public health improvements. It was suggested therefore that there could usefully be an emphasis placed through the demonstrators on addressing health inequalities and reducing air pollution in our most deprived communities.

The Panel requested more evidence and further thinking around the inclusive growth applications with a particular focus on health inequalities.

Resolved: That the Panel discussed the opportunities around health, and in particular the proposed regional Healthy Streets initiative, and provided a steer on the Panel's preferred role in shaping the regional approach.

9. Good Work

The Panel considered a report about Good Work and was informed of some of the activities already in place to promote Good Work. The Panel noted the funding made available by the Business Rates Pool Committee for inclusive growth projects designed to drive good work and it was suggested that the Panel could liaise with the Business Rates Pool Committee to gain further insight.

The Panel was provided with a presentation from Bill Adams from TUC which outlined the TUC's 'Great Jobs' Agenda. The Agenda provided a series of criteria for 'great jobs'. The Panel commended the 'Great Jobs' Agenda and discussed how it might be worked towards. Some suggestions included using aspects of the Great Jobs agenda as criteria for business awards and championing the Good Work agenda to promote change.

Resolved: That the current range of activity across the City Region be noted and that the Panel discuss a future focus around good employment.

10. Funding Opportunities

The Panel considered a report about the funding opportunities available to drive inclusive growth across the region. The Panel noted the projects funded through the Business Rates Pool as well as the Growing Places Fund.

The Panel was informed that options for funding would be presented at the next meeting, including an update regarding the use of the Growing Places Fund for inclusive growth purposes.

Resolved: That the current and potential funding streams to drive inclusive growth across the City Region be noted.

11. Governance Arrangements

The Panel discussed the possibility of reviewing its membership and recruiting new private sector members. It was noted that it was important for future members to come from a diverse range of backgrounds and represent different viewpoints on the inclusive growth agenda.

Some possible options were outlined for the Panel including the possibility of a full scale recruitment process for all LEP Panels with new members appointed in the summer, subject to a steer on process from the LEP Board. The importance of an inclusive recruitment policy was noted.

Resolved: To consider any changes to the membership of the Panel which would be useful to help progress the work programme.

12. Date of the next meeting - 1 March 2019

Note of Workshop - Inclusive Growth and Public Policy Panel

**14th February 2020
The Old Fire Station, Gipton**

Introduction to the Old Fire Station and the work of Gipsil

- In 2014, the West Yorkshire Fire Service commissioned a new fire station in Killingbeck and decommissioned their stations in Gipton and Stanks. Two locally-based community organisations (Gipsil and Zest Health for Life) approached Leeds Community Foundation (LCF) to see if it was possible to save the building for the community by converting it into a Community and Enterprise hub.
- LCF managed a significant fund set up by the late Jimi Heselden, a local businessman who was born and brought up in East Leeds. Following discussions with Jimi's family, LCF was able to make a grant from Jimbo's Fund to finance the purchase and renovation of the former fire station. Jimi felt passionately about supporting his local community, so this was a very appropriate way of acknowledging his tremendous generosity.
- Other third sector partners came on board as potential tenants, and contractors were appointed.
- The project began to take shape and the renovation was completed in August 2017 and the building has been transformed into a bright modern hub of activity.
- Many of the original features have been retained - old pumps, the firemans' poles some flooring and tiles - with the building being transformed into a bright modern hub of activity.
- Gipsil started as 'Gipton Supported Independent Living', and formed by members of Gipton local community because of numbers of young people 'sofa-surfing'.
- Gipsil increased their service provision based on local needs, expanding gradually through contracts with Leeds City Council - initially supporting vulnerable young people on the estate - then expanding across the City to support care leavers.
- Government funding was secured for the refurbishment of empty homes in East Leeds, which then led to the establishment of the 'Elevate' Social Enterprise - bringing in additional funding.
- Building upon this work in collaboration with a range of local organisations led to the transfer of support services, including Archway Resource centre, The Beck health and well-being, Renew (construction and housing), to Gipsil in 2016.
- Gipsil now delivers support to young people, particularly vulnerable groups including care leavers and single parents, across Leeds. In addition to supporting housing and wellbeing, this has expanded to skills and employment.

Draft

Roundup of LCR Local Inclusive Growth Activities

Panel members were requested to outline circa 3 current examples of local Inclusive Growth activity with a view to sharing best practice, learning and scaling up opportunities:

Bradford:

- **Procurement** - LA spending power to support the third sector, eg third sector representation on interview panel for appointment of Head of Procurement
- **Skills** eg supporting Screen Yorkshire's 'Beyond Brontes' to promote inclusion in the film making industry, and PWC is training young and diverse recruits
- **Social enterprise** – secured a significant national Local Action Fund award.

Calderdale (provided post-workshop):

- **Park and Warley programme** based on community engagement, employment and social value as its guiding themes.
- **Community wealth building** principles incorporated into early stage proposals for the Towns funding.
- Recently joined the '**Keep it Local**' Network in order to promote local commissioning through community engagement.

Kirklees:

- **Community asset transfer** support – number of successes
- **Local supply chains/procurement** – use of Social Value portal to quantify the impact – currently 57% with SMES vs 47% benchmark
- **Poverty proofing the school day** - engaged schools locally to identify and address the non-obvious signs of poverty

Leeds:

- **Creative and Digital Workspace Fund** – to address third sector orgs being priced out of city centre locations
- **100% digital Leeds** – eg high profile 'tech mums' clubs providing digital skills training
- **Employment initiatives** - eg Leeds teaching hospital, which had persistent vacancies, brought 24 local people into healthcare jobs.

Wakefield:

- CLLD funded project focusing on **business and enterprise support** in deprived areas
- Transformative capital projects, eg **Rutland Mills** re-development as a creative community hub
- **Getting local people into work** and then progressing, eg through: Works Better Programme; Step-up (includes the employment hub for young people)

York:

Draft

- **Community hubs** using devolved ward funding, re-purposing children's centres, and schools.
- **Vocational training for 14 year olds** - working with York College eg construction and hospitality – targeted at disengaged young people

WYCA/LEP:

- **Business Grants** – IG criteria/conditions introduced (eg real living wage, school engagement, apprenticeships etc)
- Careers support for individuals with special educational needs - **SEND Hub** - to assist young people vulnerable to becoming NEET
- Inclusive cycling infrastructure investment – eg **City Connect** Castleford to Wakefield Greenway

West and North Yorkshire Chamber:

- **Leeds Manufacturing Festival** - focus on manufacturing skills and life skills for secondary school aged children
- **UTC** inclusive intake and provides inspiring learning opportunities - e.g. NASA visit
- **Apprentice levy transfers** - bringing organisations together so funding can be better matched and prevent unspent levy from leaving the region

JRF:

- Focus on best practice and policy advice, eg recent report on how LISs can deliver inclusive growth (<https://www.jrf.org.uk/report/how-local-industrial-strategies-can-deliver-inclusive-growth>)

West Yorkshire and Harrogate Health and Care Partnership:

- **5-year plan** <https://www.wyhpартnership.co.uk/publications/our-five-year-plan/five-year-plan-introduction>
- **Enhancing communities fund** - NHS money going into keeping people well

Yorkshire Sport Foundation:

- Working with VCS local residents, schools and Leeds City Council partners in Seacroft in an ABCD way - **using physical activity and sport to help people connect into their local communities**, build confidence and resilience through participating in activities and volunteering, and move closer to employment.
- **Coach Core** - working with Sport England and The Royal Foundation (Duke and Duchess of Cambridge) - will launch in Leeds (and potentially Bradford) providing opportunities for young people in challenging communities to gain skills and employment using sport and physical activity as the means.
- Also **working with DWP** in Hemsworth, Wakefield with a range of partners to look at a 'person centred' approach to moving people towards employment

Progressing the draft Strategic Inclusive Growth Framework

Our IG definition was restated:

Enabling as many people as possible in LCR to contribute to, and benefit from, economic growth.

Draft

The definition embeds the following key perspectives:

- **Social** - benefitting the different groups that face barriers to high quality employment, including those with protected characteristics
- **Place** - addressing inequalities in opportunity within our communities.

The proposed guiding aims of the Framework were noted and agreed:

- To enable all our richly diverse people, places and communities to contribute to - and benefit from - LCR's economic growth.
- To promote collaboration with our partners which builds on proven community and local level Inclusive Growth activities by understanding, trialling and scaling up successful approaches to the City Region level where advantageous to do so.
- To ensure that Inclusive Growth is at the forefront of both local and regional growth ambitions and policy making, such as the emerging Local Industrial Strategy.

An overview was provided to members on progress made to date:

- The Panel noted it had previously considered early thinking on an outline Framework
- Engagement had been undertaken with a number of key stakeholders including:
 - Consultation on challenges, opportunities and what is needed at LCR level to deliver Inclusive Growth
 - Comprehensive information collection/mapping, ie understanding what is happening at local and community levels, and what is potentially scalable to the regional level.
 - Co-designing of:
 - Strategic IG Goals (ie Wellbeing, Connectivity & Accessibility, Transferable and Relevant Skills, and Good Work,
 - Ambition statements against each Goal (from the perspectives of the individual, employers and the region), and
 - Related indicative actions/interventions/investments (supported by logic models/theory of change)

Next steps:

- Officers to finalise the draft Framework in consultation with the Chief Executive lead and the Panel Chair, including by capturing scalable local IG activities identified, as far as possible.
- Consult wider stakeholders on the draft Framework in due course and ensure that the consultation captures the community voice.
- Following the consultation exercise, finalise the Framework and seek its endorsement by the Panel and then adoption by CA and LEP.

Report to: Inclusive Growth and Public Policy Panel

Date: 15 June 2020

Subject: **Covid-19 Economic Response and Recovery**

Director: Alan Reiss, Director of Policy, Strategy and Communications

Author: James Flanagan, Head of Public Service Reform

1. Purpose of this report

1.1 To provide the Panel with an overview of:

- emerging key inclusive growth related impacts on the City Region during the pandemic; and
- current partnership working on developing an inclusive economy.

2. Information

Background

2.1 The likely full consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic on the City Region's economy are still being understood in the context of the available data, research and intelligence. However, it is already clear that it will have significant long-term social and economic impacts. At the City Region level, work is taking place both to support the immediate economic response and to develop what might be required in recovery and in terms of future resilience.

Data, intelligence and research

2.2 The City Region's economic response and recovery planning work to date has been informed by data, research and intelligence gathered on a number of issues and published in a weekly monitoring report. The reporting and other intelligence has included the following key findings:

- In April 2020 there were 108,000 jobless claimants in Leeds City Region, with 87,900 claimants in West Yorkshire. This is an unprecedented increase of 41,200 (+62%) across the City Region and of 30,800 (+54%) across West Yorkshire, though this is lower proportionately than the increase seen nationally of 66%. The claimant rate rose from 3.5% to 5.6% in the City Region and from 3.9% to 6.0% for West Yorkshire. The Institute

for Economic Studies (IES) has noted that younger people have been particularly impacted and that there are also high levels recorded for over 50s (and it is anticipated many of these will not go back to work).

- Districts with the lowest unemployment before the crisis saw the biggest percentage increases - Craven (+172%), Harrogate (+158%), York (+141%), Selby (+116%). These are all in York / North Yorkshire and rely more strongly on sectors like retail and hospitality. West Yorkshire districts fared better in percentage growth terms, ranging from 44% in Bradford and 61% in Wakefield. But these districts already had relatively high levels of unemployment and so their increases were the largest in absolute terms, ranging from 2,800 in Calderdale to 10,800 in Leeds.
- Most analysts agree that the initial employment impact would have been significantly higher without the ability to furlough workers. While forecasts suggest the unemployment rate could exceed 10% later in 2020, extending the Government's Job Retention Scheme should help limit the increase.
- According to an analysis of postings to the Adzuna job site undertaken by the IES, the number of online job postings in Leeds City Region fell by 18,600 or 64% between week ending 15th March and week ending 10th May (West Yorkshire postings also fell by 64%) – roughly corresponding to the lockdown period to 21st May. Harrogate and Leeds saw the largest percentage falls in vacancy levels, whilst Kirklees and Selby saw the smallest falls. The IES has also noted there are now 6 claimants for every vacancy compared with around 1.5 before the pandemic began, the toughest labour market for job seekers than at any time in living memory.
- Following the change in advice from the government, 84% of respondents to the Chambers' survey felt it would enable them to fully or partially restart activity, though this figure was lower in consumer facing industries. The Chambers' survey found three quarters of businesses were in a position to implement rules for physical distancing at their premises, and 70% felt they had or could implement provisions for remote working. There are signs that this may be starting to happen, with smart card usage increasing by 8% and Leeds station footfall up 11% in the w/c 11th May. In both cases however, activity is close to or over 90% down on pre-crisis levels.

2.3 In order to further support Panel members to identify and understand the specific socio-economic impacts on our most deprived communities and those with protected characteristics, it is proposed that the September meeting of the Panel receives a report on potential options, to be developed by the officer support group, including for the development of a suitable inclusive growth data dashboard and / or index. These options would reflect the Panel's shared working inclusive growth goals as discussed at their workshop in February (covered elsewhere on the agenda) around: wellbeing; connectivity and accessibility; transferable and relevant skills; and good work.

West Yorkshire Economic Recovery Board

2.4 Current partnership working on the regional economic response to the pandemic is being led by the West Yorkshire Economic Recovery Board. The

Board is a working group of the Combined Authority and brings together the region's local authority Leaders with the LEP Chair and representatives from key partnerships and stakeholders. At its first meeting in April, the Board agreed a strategic vision to grow a more inclusive, resilient and sustainable economy with more productive businesses, better levels of skills and entrepreneurialism, less inequality, and better environmental sustainability. In addition, the Board agreed three strategic priorities:

1. A recovery that produces resilient and thriving businesses, boosted by innovation, high skills and entrepreneurialism
2. A clean growth recovery that grasps the opportunity to deliver sustainability across all our places
3. A recovery that delivers inclusive growth and a decent standard of living, where good work and wellbeing allow as many as possible to contribute to, and benefit from the region's economy

2.5 At its meeting on 28 May, the Board confirmed its areas of focus as:

- Business, Innovation and Trade
- Employment and Skills
- Inclusive Growth
- Environment and Carbon
- Infrastructure and Capital Projects

All these areas will be linked into and align with plans being developed by others, including on transport and health. All committees and panels of the Combined Authority and the LEP will have the opportunity to contribute to the analysis and interventions being developed.

2.6 The Board recognises that it will be important for all panels to contribute to this work, with the Inclusive Growth and Public Policy Panel having a particular focus on the third of the above priorities.

2.7 To achieve the Board's vision, it is important that recovery related activities take place at the most local level possible. A West Yorkshire Economic Recovery Plan (the Plan) is therefore being prepared to focus on what is best done at a regional level, building on strong collaboration with local plans.

2.8 For each of the above core areas of focus, including on inclusive growth, the Plan will cover the following:

- Policy priorities
- Products and programmes
- Key regional strategies and frameworks (including identifying any areas where these need to re-focus)
- The regional voice to Government, identifying the key areas where engagement is needed.

2.9 Key questions being considered for the Plan against each core area, which Panel members are asked to consider, include:

- How should we measure a successful recovery?
- How targeted should interventions be?

- Where should we concentrate interventions?
- What is the priority for spending?

3. Clean Growth Implications

3.1 There are no clean growth implications directly arising as a result of this report.

4. Inclusive Growth Implications

4.1 The report identifies the opportunity for the Panel to contribute to the development of the proposed West Yorkshire Economic Recovery Plan, which will have a clear focus on delivering more inclusive growth across the City Region.

5. Financial Implications

5.1 There are no immediate financial implications arising as a direct result of this report.

6. Legal Implications

6.1 There are no legal implications arising as a direct result of this report.

7. Staffing Implications

7.1 There are no staffing implications arising as a direct result of this report.

8. External Consultees

8.1 No specific or official external consultations have been undertaken in relation to this report.

9. Recommendations

9.1 That the Panel notes the emerging key inclusive growth related impacts on the City Region during the pandemic and receives a future report on potential options for monitoring inclusive growth as set out at 2.3.

9.2 That the Panel provides views on the developing work being led by the West Yorkshire Economic Recovery Board, and on the key questions set out at 2.9.

10. Background Documents

There are no background documents referenced in this report.

11. Appendices

None