

Appendix 1: Recommendations from Brexit impact assessment

The Combined Authority has reviewed publicly available information relevant to assessing the regional impact of Brexit, and supplemented this with information from local sources such as the Leeds City Region business survey. The key conclusions are listed below.

Conclusion	Recommendation
That the LEP has already begun to put in place support that can assist businesses looking to succeed in the current environment, and is ready to implement further programmes as necessary in a no deal scenario	That preparatory work is done so that the organisation is ready to deliver further programmes as necessary in a no deal scenario
That we are already experiencing the effects of Brexit on the economy, even while the final conclusion remains uncertain	To make sure that we are responding to those effects appropriately, through our ongoing inclusive growth, business support and trade and investment activity, exploring opportunities where they are presented.
We have a comprehensive intelligence picture of Brexit preparations across businesses and the economy more widely. There are some specific gaps in our knowledge and interactions in relation to large indigenous businesses and more widely on the impact on households	To explore options for how intelligence gaps can be addressed, and decide which to fill; noting that there is variation across the region in the approach of local authorities in engaging with large local employers.
That although there are significant opportunities and challenges for businesses in the Leeds City Region, there are no major implications that are not also true for businesses across the UK	Continue to direct businesses to national advice and support, not duplicating that support locally; noting we have already launched an online resource to provide advice to businesses, based on national advice.
That in the current economic climate (and depending on the outcome of Brexit) it is more challenging to achieve the further investment across the city region that is required to drive productivity	Strengthen the strategic narrative for the Spending Review, devolution and Local Industrial Strategy, to make a compelling case for investment to Government. Influence the Shared Prosperity Fund to ensure the region can support programmes once European funding ends. Redouble efforts to increase inward investment in areas of the LCR beyond Leeds.
That while short term sterling depreciation has supported exporters, (depending on the outcome of Brexit) there are implications for the future of trade for city region businesses that will be particularly felt in supply chains	Continue developing trade policy (including through the extended export for growth programme) that supports businesses to succeed, and assist them to have the right systems and permissions for future trading
That while the labour market has proven to be resilient to date, there are challenges in particular sectors to the supply of skilled workers	To focus on the supply of skilled workers into good jobs, looking at training and re-training in particular as routes to meeting demand (as well as potential new migration policies)