
Report to: Leeds City Region Enterprise Partnership Board (LEP Board)

Date: 16 January 2020

Subject: **Local Industrial Strategy**

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1. Purpose of this report

- 1.1 To update the LEP Board on development of a Local Industrial Strategy (LIS).
- 1.2 To consider the proposals to work collaboratively with the West Yorkshire and Harrogate Health Partnership on the developing health and growth agenda.

2. Information

- 2.1 As previously reported, a LIS is being developed for the LEP area that will focus on bold steps aimed at boosting productivity and driving inclusive and clean growth for a post-2030 economy. As discussed at the previous LEP Board, the general election and uncertainty around Brexit mean that the LIS will now be submitted to Government in early 2020. The proposed submission date is now March 2020 but is still subject to any confirmed changes in Government policy following the election.
- 2.2 The LIS will build on the success of the Strategic Economic Plan and set the direction for the next stage of the economic transformation. To reflect the changing economy and future challenges, it will sit within the Strategic Economic Framework (SEF), an agile, long-term strategic framework, incorporating a full range of policies and strategies across economic development and transport, reflecting the scale of our ambitions and priorities for the City Region and the urgent need to tackle the climate emergency.
- 2.3 Priorities for the LIS have been identified against the five foundations of productivity – People, Place, Infrastructure, Ideas and Business Environment. In addition, at the LEP Board away day in September there was strong support for focusing on the Ageing Society and AI and Data Grand Challenges but with reference to the region’s contribution to meeting the other two challenges. These priorities are now being developed into a full narrative.

- 2.4 Throughout the development process, health has been identified as key to the productivity challenge and an area of distinctiveness for the region. The health sector is a major employer in the city region, with significant clusters of technology-focused firms driving innovative approaches to health and medicine that could significantly enhance both lives and productivity. Relatively poor health outcomes are a significant impediment to regional productivity, and our ambitions for the environment, place-making and culture are key to the improving this situation. Embracing both the opportunities and challenges of this is central to our ambition to ensure this Strategy drives economic growth that delivers opportunity and enhancements to quality of life for everyone. It is therefore proposed that the LIS will contain a central big idea - *“Healthy lives that improve wellbeing and productivity”*.
- 2.5 In parallel, the West Yorkshire and Harrogate (WYH) Health Partnership have been developing the WYH 5 Year Strategy for Health and Care, and in particular developing an approach to Improving Population Health.
- 2.6 On 21 October, the WYH Partnership and the LEP hosted a roundtable for senior leaders across the WYH Senior Leadership Executive, LEP Inclusive Growth and Public Policy Panel and officers involved in developing the LIS to discuss our regional ambitions for health and growth. The City Region is the first in the country to host senior-level discussions across both strategies.
- 2.7 Several areas were identified where action could be further aligned without the need for significant further investment, in addition to areas where we might want to develop ambitions. The meeting identified four broad areas of shared interest where we could use collaborative delivery of these two key regional strategies to maximise impact. These were discussed and supported at the WYH Health Partnership Board on 3 December, and are included here for discussion, comment and further refinement.
- 2.8 **Life-Led** - To be a region that understands and invests in lifetime health, both for our current population and for future generations. This means that we are serious about people’s lives being at the centre of our ambitions for regional growth and wellbeing.
- a) To be a regional centre for applied research into the factors that determine health
 - b) To use our strengths in health and social science to attract further investment in research and focus on translating the evidence into actionable policy and practice
 - c) To accelerate and mainstream our learning on community-led solutions and invest in the outcomes that deliver long term, sustainable wellbeing for future generations
- 2.9 **Climate** - To become a leader in responding to climate emergency:
- a) **Through mitigation** - reducing carbon through our buildings, our supply chains, how we travel and how we use digital technologies
 - b) **Through investment** - encouraging innovation, rethinking and developing climate friendly products and practices throughout our

health and care system, investment in clean transport, green infrastructure and active travel

- c) **Through culture change** - supporting the workforce to respond with practical changes, and ideas for more climate-friendly ways of working

- 2.10 **Good Work** - There is strong evidence that shows good work drives good health, and good health enables good work. We should use our key strategies to focus our regional efforts on being:
- a) **Well Skilled** – Maximise connections between the ambitions of the Local Workforce Action Board and the regional Employment and Skills Panel. Better join up our approaches to apprenticeships and lifelong skills development, targeting areas of growth or shortage in our health and care sector.
 - b) **Working Well** – Increase the opportunity for people with long term conditions, physical, sensory or learning disabilities or mental health conditions to work and achieve their potential, through providing better tailored support to remove the barriers to employment.
 - c) **Well Work Places** – Work with employers and lead by example to ensure that our workplaces actively promote physical and mental wellness and provide flexible working conditions.

- 2.11 **Ageing Well** - Focus on the strengths our older population brings to the region and co-produce with them the ideas and solutions to ageing well in our region.
- a) **Designed for Life** – To ensure that lifetime health is designed into future spatial plans, housing developments and public realm changes
 - b) **Ageing well** – Promote and support wellbeing opportunities for people to age well through increased access to physical activity, opportunities for mental stimulation, and giving everyone the opportunity to spend time doing something they are passionate about.
 - c) **Independent Ageing** - Innovate and support tech-enabling solutions for independent health living and socialising
 - d) **Rethinking Ageing** - Rethink and redesign the jobs, skills, infrastructure and funding needed for an ageing society to age well

Process and Key Milestones

- 2.12 LISs need to be underpinned by robust evidence that draws out relative strengths and weaknesses, with an emphasis on productivity. The draft economic analysis was completed in the summer and is now being finalised to support the policy priorities and narrative.
- 2.13 Wide ranging consultation has been undertaken as part of the development, with over 1000 people taking part in over 70 consultation and engagement activities. This has had a significant influence on identified priorities. For example, consultation has driven
- A focus on identifying positive productivity-focused business behaviours, rather than solely focusing on specific sectors.
 - The identification of priority Grand Challenges, through expert input from universities.

- Increased emphasis on higher level skills, including a specific priority on developing leadership skills to support innovation and ‘good growth’.
- Specific reference to economic disruptors that will require distinct re/upskilling needs, e.g. clean growth-related technological changes.

A full summary of this activity is provided at Appendix 1.

2.14 Key milestones for the development of the LIS are:

- ✓ Initial call for evidence completed May
- ✓ Initial economic evidence report complete June
- ✓ Initial stakeholder engagement completed August
- ✓ Second call for evidence completed July
- ✓ Headline economic evidence report published August
- ✓ Draft policy proposals completed August
- ✓ Consultation and engagement on draft proposals October/November
- ✓ LIS drafted and tested November/December
- Further refine of draft to reflect emerging Government priorities and ongoing discussions during Spring 2020
- Final economic evidence report published Spring 2020
- LIS finalised and submitted to Government March 2020
- LIS published Summer 2020 (subject to agreement with Government)

3. Clean Growth Implications

3.1 Clean growth is a cross cutting theme within the LIS and as such is being embedded into the priorities and narrative.

4. Financial Implications

4.1 There are no financial implications directly arising from this report.

5. Legal Implications

5.1 There are no legal implications directly arising from this report.

6. Staffing Implications

6.1 The LIS development forms a central component of the Combined Authority and LEP’s programme of work to broaden its policy range. This will continue to require capacity and expertise from the Combined Authority, local authorities and other partners, which can largely be provided within existing resources.

7. External Consultees

7.1 A programme of external engagement has been undertaken to inform the development of the Local Industrial Strategy.

8. Recommendations

8.1 That the LEP Board notes the progress made.

8.2 That the LEP Board agrees the proposal to work collaboratively with the West Yorkshire and Harrogate Health Partnership on the developing health and growth agenda, across the areas outlined in paragraphs 2.8 to 2.11.

9. Background Documents

9.1 None

10. Appendices

10.1 Appendix 1: Summary of Consultation