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

**Date:** 25 February 2020

**Subject:** **Culture, Sport and Major Events**

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

**Author(s):** Karen Durham

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## 1. Purpose of this report

- 1.1 To inform LEP Board Members about the ongoing activity of City Region partners who are working together to unlock the full potential of culture, sport and major events to deliver the City Region's vision.
- 1.2 To provide LEP Board with an update on the development of the Leeds City Region Cultural Framework and Vision document and to endorse the adoption of the framework and further development of the support structure arrangements including development of the partnerships.

### Background

- 2.1 The LEP Board have previously acknowledged that culture, sport and major events play a unique role in helping to inform and deliver the regional inclusive growth agenda and to this end commissioned work to assess how culture could be integrated and factored into policy, programme development and delivery. Whilst the LEP is not responsible for direct delivery, its role as an advocate for culture and ability to convene local and national partnerships will aid effective collaborative programmes and projects to be developed as well as assisting in increasing resources for culture in the City Region.
- 2.2 Over the past 10 months this work has been taken forward in consultation with a wide range of stakeholders, resulting in the development of a City Region Cultural Framework and outline Vision document. This has been a unique, innovative approach with significant buy-in from partners. The documents will be owned and used by partners in developing their own local and national plans and secure commitment from partners to the LEP cultural agenda.

### Cultural Framework and Vision

- 2.3 The Cultural Framework has been developed to give context to the potential opportunities that exist for the region's cultural offer and identity to be developed, or for culture to be embedded within, or add value to, other

programmes. The Framework is designed to be used within the LEP and with partners to ensure culture is considered alongside other cross-cutting agendas. It is not intended to impose any specific expectations and the examples included are indicative, to help illustrate the potential.

- 2.4 It is intended that the content / context of the framework and the vision document can be adopted and used by Local Authorities and others in developing their own cultural policies and might be considered in developing Local Development Plans.
- 2.5 To support the adoption of a cultural framework a cultural narrative / vision document is being developed. This will showcase existing strengths and future opportunities. It will highlight high level priorities and be an advocacy document, co-authored / owned by the city region partners including DCMS Arms-Length Bodies (ALBs) in the region responsible for culture.

### Consultations

- 2.6 A wide range of partnerships and relationships have been developed through this work. These have informed development and will be critical for delivery.
- 2.7 The work is overseen by Place Panel and has been shaped through a number of consultations, including with a cultural steering group under the leadership of the lead chief executive for culture. All Local Authority heads of culture have been consulted and engaged throughout the process through individual meetings and through membership of the steering group.
- 2.8 Discussions have taken place with cultural funding bodies including Arts Council England, Heritage Lottery Fund, Historic England, and Yorkshire Sport/Sport England, who are keen to embed a greater 'place' focus in their approaches, providing opportunity to better align funding decisions around shared aims. This has enabled the work to factor in existing and emerging regional / national cultural policies with alignment to national activity.

### Framework and Vision next steps

- 2.9 The vision document will be developed to include a narrative that tells the story of the region. The document appended is a broad outline of contents and not a draft of the final document, with the full design and images included finalised once the content is complete.
- 2.10 There is a cross over between this work and the visitor / tourism economy sector. To facilitate joint working the new Chief Executive of Welcome to Yorkshire will be invited to future cultural steering group meetings.
- 2.11 A number of partnerships and structures are emerging which will be vital for the delivery of the cultural framework and vision and for continuing the work instigated to develop effective cultural partnership relationships. Some of these are currently active but some need to be further developed and endorsed as ways of working. These include a regional Cultural Steering

Group, a Partnership Group, regional partnerships through NP11 and the Yorkshire Leaders' Board, and a proposal for LEP Cultural Champions, outlined below.

### Cultural Champions

- 2.12 One of the barriers identified in progressing the cultural agenda has been that due to its cross cutting nature it does not sit comfortably under any one panel or with any one programme, and so although widely appreciated and supported it has not been explicitly considered strategically across the broad LEP agenda. Therefore, it is recommended that “cultural champions/advocates” are identified for each Panel. They will be responsible for ensuring that the cultural opportunities as described in the framework are considered and implemented where appropriate and where they can add value to the agenda of that Panel.
- 2.13 It is proposed that these cultural champions will convene as a group and engage collectively with the cultural partners to help steer the cultural focus and aid them in the development of future action plans when appropriate.
- 2.14 In the first instance cultural champions/ advocates may be recruited as volunteers from existing panel members, but if there are gaps then future recruitment of LEP members should factor this in.
- 2.15 This would be a new way of working and could be on a trial basis and with possibilities to extend to other cross cutting agendas.

### **3. Clean Growth Implications**

- 3.1 There are no clean growth implications in endorsing this strategy

### **4. Financial Implications**

- 4.1 There are no financial implications in endorsing this strategy

### **5. Legal Implications**

- 5.1 There are no legal implications arising from this report

### **6. Staffing Implications**

- 6.1 There are no direct staffing implications arising from this report.

### **7. External Consultees**

- 7.1 Consultation and engagement has taken place through the following routes: Place Panel; Chief Executives; Cultural Steering Group; Arts Council England; National Heritage Lottery Fund; Historic England; Yorkshire Sport; Local Authorities.

## **8. Recommendations**

- 8.1 LEP board are asked to note the ongoing activity of City Region partners who are working together to unlock the full potential of culture, sport and major events to deliver the City Region's vision.
- 8.2 LEP board are asked to endorse the adoption of the framework, subject to final amendments and design work.
- 8.3 LEP board are asked to agree the proposal to establish a group of cultural champions across the LEP panels to steer the cross-cutting cultural agenda of the LEP, and to note ongoing work to establish partnership arrangements to deliver the framework and vision.
- 8.4 LEP board are asked to note the outline cultural vision document which will be further developed with the Cultural steering group.

## **9. Background Documents**

- 9.1 None

## **10. Appendices**

Appendix 1 – Cultural Framework

Appendix 2 – Draft Outline Vision document