
Report to: Business, Innovation and Growth Panel

Date: 27th February 2020

Subject: **Innovate UK regional activity**

Director(s): Alan Reiss, Director of Policy Strategy and Communications

Author(s): Sarah Bowes

1. Purpose of this report

- 1.1 To update members on UKRI and Innovate UK regional activity, building on the existing Leeds City Region MoU.

2. Information

MoU

- 2.1 In June 2017 an MoU between Leeds City Region Enterprise and Innovate UK was signed with the intention of increasing collaboration and cooperation between the two organisations to support and drive innovation across the region.
- 2.2 The focus of the MoU was around four key areas: Data sharing and referrals; Marketing and promotion; Access to expertise; Co-investment opportunities.
- 2.3 The emerging Local Industrial Strategy further reinforces our ambitions to develop our relationship with the national innovation agency. In order to develop the thinking on what this should involve, Innovate UKs regional manager will lead a discussion around regional engagement in Leeds City Region and particularly alignment with the new Connecting Innovation programme.
- 2.4 Connecting Innovation is being developed to provide a gateway for innovation support across Leeds City Region, helping businesses navigate the landscape and access the right support. Providing a route into Innovate UK support and joining up the national offer locally is key to this.

3. Clean Growth Implications

3.1 There are no clean growth implications directly arising from this report.

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 There are no staffing implications directly arising from this report.

7. External Consultees

7.1 No external consultations have been undertaken.

8. Recommendations

8.1 That Panel members note the contents of this report and consider ways to strengthen the relationship to be discussed at the meeting

9. Background Documents

None.

10. Appendices

None