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

Date: 10 June 2020

Subject: **Inclusive Growth and Public Policy Panel**

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1. Purpose of this report

- 1.1 To provide the LEP Board with a report on the recent work of the Inclusive Growth and Public Policy Panel.

2. Information

- 2.1 A workshop of the Panel met on 14 February, at the Old Fire Station, Gipton, in Leeds.
- 2.2 Members were provided with the following overview of the Old Fire Station and the related work of Gipsil:
- Following the relocation of Gipton Fire Station in 2014, Leeds Community Foundation supported two locally based organisations (Gipsil and Zest Health for Life) to convert the building into a Community and Enterprise Hub.
 - Since the completion of the refurbishment in August 2017, the Hub has become a focal point of community activity and home to a number of social enterprises.
 - Gipsil have expanded their work across Leeds in supporting young and vulnerable people to access housing, increase wellbeing, develop their skills and gain sustainable employment.
- 2.3 Members provided a roundup of local Inclusive Growth related activities with a view to sharing best practice, learning and scaling up opportunities:

Bradford:

- **Procurement** - LA spending power to support the third sector, e.g. 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** – e.g. high profile 'tech mums' clubs providing digital skills training
- **Employment initiatives** - e.g. 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, e.g. **Rutland Mills** re-development as a creative community hub
- **Getting local people into work** and then progressing, e.g. through: Works Better Programme; Step-up (includes the employment hub for young people)

York:

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

West Yorkshire Combined Authority/LEP:

- **Business Grants** – IG criteria/conditions introduced (e.g. 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 – e.g. **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, e.g. 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.wyhppartnership.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

2.4 Members were updated on the progress made in developing 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.
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 following guiding Framework aims 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 in relation to:
 - Consultation on challenges, opportunities and what is needed at LCR level to deliver Inclusive Growth
 - Comprehensive information collection/mapping, i.e. 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
 - A programme of related indicative actions/interventions/investments (supported by logic models/theory of change).

- The following next steps were agreed:
 - 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.
 - To consult wider stakeholders on the draft Framework and ensure that the consultation captures the community voice.
 - Following the consultation exercise, officers to finalise the Framework in consultation with the Panel Chair and lead Chief Executive and seek its endorsement by the Panel and then adoption by CA and LEP.

2.5 Inclusive Growth is a key priority for the West Yorkshire Economic Recovery Strategy and the Inclusive Growth Framework will be reviewed to consider a) what changes are necessary in the light of Covid-19, and b) which of the products and programmes proposed within it should be prioritised to assist recovery.

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 implications associated with this paper.

7. External Consultees

7.1 No external consultations have been undertaken.

8. Recommendation

8.1 That the report of the work of the Inclusive Growth and Public Policy Panel be noted, including the progress towards the development of an LCR Inclusive Growth Strategic Framework.

9. Background Documents

9.1 None.

10. Appendices

10.1 None.