

Appendix 1 – Draft West Yorkshire Investment Priorities

IP 1 - Good Jobs and Resilient Businesses (including entrepreneurialism)

Key Policies and Strategies: Inclusive Growth framework, Tackling the Climate Emergency, Employment and Skills, Digital, Economic Recovery, Innovation, Business Productivity & Resilience.

- Support the creation of good quality jobs in sectors with growth and higher productivity potential (health innovation, low carbon sector) including through inward investment - *promote good work e.g. through the good work standard, quality and range of employment for all and focus on those jobs which offer social mobility.*
- Support entrepreneurs by providing appropriate support to help people to create and grow businesses – *including promoting and facilitating Social Enterprise / 'quality' self employment as an option for disadvantaged groups and individuals in our most deprived communities.*
- Provide support for businesses seeking investment to innovate or explore new market opportunities particularly to grow jobs in areas of regional strength or tackle societal challenges — e.g. *prioritising health innovation and clean growth tech particularly to close health and wellbeing inequalities.*
- Support for project development costs as required to progress the Investment Priorities proposed above.

IP 2 - Skills and training for people

Key Policies and Strategies: Business Productivity, & Resilience, Enabling Inclusive Growth, Tackling the Climate Emergency, Employment and Skills, Digital, Economic Recovery, Innovation.

- Education/careers support, building resilient virtual careers and skills development support, following a disrupted year of education to prevent a rise in young people not in employment, education, or training (NEETs) - *targeted at disadvantaged learners and those young people most affected by the pandemic esp. age 15-17 years, BAME learners, and those in deprived communities.*
- Supporting older workers (over 50) back to work and to stay in work longer where recently made unemployed – *targeting the 10,000 people aged 50-64 who are unemployed, and those who are at risk of redundancy.*
- Extend the Local Digital Skills Partnership to coordinate an offer to support growth in SMEs, voluntary sector, support educators and learners with digital skills – *addressing digital exclusion and ensuring open access for all to avoid further disadvantage and an increase of the digital divide.*

- West Yorkshire Green Skills Partnership to bring together partners to support the development of future skills and jobs needed for a net zero carbon economy and ensure a just transition for jobs at risk from decarbonization – *focus on job creation in a growth sector and connecting those facing labour market disadvantage to the new employment opportunities.*
- Science, technology, engineering and maths (STEM) taskforce to tackle low take up of STEM subjects – *improving skills levels amongst key groups who do not traditionally take up STEM e.g. women, LGBT.*
- Support for project development costs as required to progress the Investment Priorities proposed above.

IP 3 - Accelerated Infrastructure

Key Policies and Strategies: Green and Blue Infrastructure, Housing, Heritage and Regeneration, Spatial Planning, Culture, Flood Risk Management, Connectivity, Enabling Inclusive Growth, Tackling the Climate Emergency, Digital, Economic Recovery, Innovation.

- Develop a long-term future proofed housing and employment pipeline, supporting site remediation and development within Spatial Priority Areas – *improving connectivity to jobs and providing different types of affordable housing and tenure for our residents.*
- Accelerate Flood Risk Management schemes providing enhanced flood protection to business areas and/or deliver Natural Flood Management – *targeting areas most impacted by previous flooding or at greatest risk to build resilience and growth in communities.*
- Improve access to gigabit capable broadband and Internet of Things (IoT) for businesses and residents in hard to reach and/or rural areas - *addressing digital exclusion improving access to digital facilities and online services to support those most deprived residents and businesses.*
- Enhance the sustainable vitality of cities and towns, delivering new housing and employment opportunities accessible to local residents - including investment in green infrastructure, energy efficiency measures and culture– *developments to include better urban design (excessive traffic, noise and air pollution, poor road safety, low levels of active travel) to make streets in our most disadvantaged areas and amongst particular groups to become more 'people friendly'.*
- Protect businesses, the environment and improve air quality by ensuring local, competitive and resilient energy supplies that allow the region to be more self- sufficient in energy needs – incl. investment in green, low carbon, renewable energy and built into new developments and transport

infrastructure – *improving health outcomes for all and narrowing health inequalities.*

IP 4 - Tackling the Climate Emergency and Environmental Sustainability

Key Policies and Strategies: Enabling Inclusive Growth, Tackling the Climate Emergency, Connectivity Strategy, Economic Recovery, Innovation.

- Development of a zero-carbon pipeline including projects on energy efficiency, low carbon heat, electricity generation, industrial decarbonisation, natural flood management and nature recovery as well as a new net zero skills programme (*see also section above on skills*), support for businesses to help decarbonise and provision of bespoke support for industry (*see also section above on Good jobs and businesses*) - *focus on job creation in a growth sector, connecting those facing labour market disadvantage to the new employment opportunities, support a just transition : retraining, reskilling in new technologies etc.*
- Build capacity and capability to scale up 'whole-house' domestic energy retrofits. Indicative actions will support the customer journey, embedding quality and 'real-life' performance, demonstrators, and unlocking 'green finance' – *target poor quality housing in deprived neighborhoods, decreasing households in fuel and income poverty, and improving health outcomes.*
- Support the deployment of infrastructure that facilitates the transition to net-zero e.g. electricity, hydrogen, digital, electric vehicle charging points, energy storage, green infrastructure, natural capital - *focus on job creation in a growth sector, connecting those facing labour market disadvantage to the new employment opportunities.*
- Support for project development costs as required to progress the Investment Priorities proposed above.

IP 5 - Connectivity – Transport

Key Policies and Strategies: Connectivity Plan, Enabling Inclusive Growth, Tackling the Climate Emergency, Bus, Future Mobility, Transport Recovery.

- TCF programme – provide gap funding as required - *connect people to economic and education opportunities through affordable, sustainable transport and helping to create cleaner, healthier and happier communities*
- From the Connectivity Plan – delivery of measures to reduce carbon by enabling more walking, cycling, bus and rail use through highway priority and investment in marketing, ticketing and services – *improve transport access, affordability and reliability for low paid in deprived communities and disadvantaged groups.*

- From the Connectivity Plan - Maintenance of our assets across highways and public transport for all road and public transport users – *ensuring barriers to access including mobility, and connectivity are removed for our most disadvantaged groups because of poor transport links and/or quality of travel infrastructure, ensuring infrastructure development is compliant with accessible design standards.*
- Support for project development costs as required to progress the Investment Priorities proposed above – in particular to progress mass transit, that could improve transport for up to 675,000 people within top 20% most deprived communities.