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

Date: 9 June 2021

Subject: **Nominations to the West Yorkshire Combined Authority and appointments to outside bodies**

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1. Purpose of this report

1.1 To ask the LEP Board to:

- nominate a LEP Member and Substitute LEP Member to the West Yorkshire Combined Authority (“the Combined Authority”),
- nominate LEP Board members and private sector representatives to committees of the Combined Authority,
- nominate a member and substitute member to the Transport for the North (TfN) Partnership Board, and
- note the LEP’s representative and alternate to the Strategic Oversight Board for the Northern Powerhouse Investment Fund Ltd and the LEP Chair’s continuing appointment to the Department for International Trade’s Trade Advisory Group (TAG).

2. Information

Nomination of LEP Member and Substitute

- 2.1 The West Yorkshire Combined Authority Order 2014 (“the 2014 Order”) although modified by West Yorkshire Combined Authority (Election of Mayor and Functions) Order 2021 continues to provide that the Combined Authority shall appoint a member of the LEP nominated by the LEP to be a Combined Authority Member, (“the LEP Member”). The Combined Authority must also appoint a Substitute LEP Member, to act in their absence.

Nominations to Combined Authority committees

- 2.2 The LEP Board at the meeting on 28 April 2021, received a report outlining proposed changes to the Combined Authority’s committee structure, considered by the Combined Authority on 22 April 2021, and which the

Combined Authority has agreed in principle to establish at the Combined Authority's Annual Meeting on 24 June 2021.

2.3 Key points from the proposals of relevance for the LEP Board were as follows:

- The close alignment and partnership of the LEP Board and the Combined Authority is retained with a LEP Member continuing to provide the voice of business and the Mayor as a member of the LEP Board.
- The advisory panels which currently feed into both the LEP Board and the Combined Authority are to become decision-making committees of the Combined Authority with greater responsibility and accountability (the detail of their terms of reference yet to be finalised).
- The Inclusive Growth Panel is not to be retained as a decision-making committee, rather its work is to be embedded into the objectives and the workplans of the other committees.
- The four thematic decision-making committees (as successors to Panels) would be chaired by a Combined Authority Member who has the lead for that thematic area and the Deputy Chair for each of these would be a LEP Board member with voting rights. Current wider private sector membership would remain as non-voting members together with advisory ex-officio representatives.

2.4 The LEP Board are therefore asked to make nominations to the **revised committee structure**, in accordance with the schedule attached as **Appendix 1** to this report. This is subject to the decisions made at the Combined Authority meeting on 24 June.

2.5 The LEP are also asked to nominate two LEP Board members to sit as non-voting members of the Combined Authority's **Transport Committee**. These appointments may be subject to the outcome of a proposed review of the Transport Committee to be undertaken after the Combined Authority's Annual Meeting.

2.6 Given that the revised committee structure is at this stage subject to confirmation by the Combined Authority at its annual meeting, it is proposed that the LEP Chair be authorised to amend or add to the nominations in consultation with appropriate LEP Board members, should this prove to be required. There is a proposal from the Mayor to establish a **new committee covering creative and cultural** and nominations would need to be sought for this.

Transport for the North (TfN)

2.7 TfN seek a nomination each year for a representative from each of the 11 local enterprise partnerships within the TfN area to be appointed to the **TfN Partnership Board** at their annual meeting. The TfN annual meeting this year is on 27 July 2021. A substitute is also required. The practice to date is that TfN Board co-opts each LEP representative on the Partnership Board as a non-voting member of the TfN Board.

LEP Chair appointment to other bodies

2.8 Roger Marsh remains a nominated representative on the **Strategic Oversight Board**, as one of ten representatives of local enterprise partnerships. Ben Still, in his capacity as Chief Executive Officer of the LEP, is his alternate.

2.9 Roger Marsh also continues to be appointed to the Department for International Trade's **Trade Advisory Group** (TAG).

3. Tackling the Climate Emergency Implications

3.1 A LEP Board member and other private sector representatives are to be nominated to the Climate, Energy and Environment Committee.

4. Inclusive Growth Implications

4.1 Inclusivity will be fully embedded in the objectives of each thematic committee of the Combined Authority.

5. Equality and Diversity Implications

5.1 Inclusivity will be fully embedded in the objectives of each thematic committee of the Combined Authority.

6. Financial Implications

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

7. Legal Implications

7.1 The 2014 Order does not require the Combined Authority's LEP Member or their substitute to be a private sector representative. However, private sector representation secures direct private sector input into the Combined Authority membership.

7.2 By law, the Combined Authority's LEP Member must be non-voting. However, the voting Combined Authority Members may resolve that this provision does not apply.

8. Staffing Implications

8.1 There are no staffing implications arising directly from this report.

9. External Consultees

9.1 None

10. Recommendations

That the LEP Board:

- 10.1 Nominates Roger Marsh to be the LEP Member on the Combined Authority, and Mark Roberts to be the Substitute LEP Member on the Combined Authority.
- 10.2 Nominates to committees to be appointed by the Combined Authority at its Annual Meeting, including those supporting the LEP, in accordance with Appendix 1 of the report, and authorises the LEP Chair to revise the nominations in the event that this is required before the Combined Authority's annual meeting, in consultation with appropriate LEP Board members.
- 10.3 Nominates two private sector (non-voting) advisory representatives to the Combined Authority's Transport Committee as detailed in Appendix 1 of the report.
- 10.3 Nominates Roger Marsh to be a member of TfN's Partnership Board to be re-appointed at the TfN annual meeting, and Mark Roberts to be a substitute, noting that TfN current practice is to co-opt the LEP's representative on the Partnership Board to the TfN Board.
- 10.4 Notes that Roger Marsh as Chair of the LEP is a nominated representative to the Strategic Oversight Board for Northern Powerhouse Investment Fund Ltd, with Ben Still, Chief Executive Officer of the LEP as his alternate, and that Roger Marsh also continues to be appointed to the Department for International Trade's Trade Advisory Group (TAG).

11. Background Documents

- 11.1 None.

12. Appendices

- 12.1 Appendix 1 – private sector representative nominations to the revised committee structure.