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

Date: 15 September 2021

Subject: **Corporate Performance Report**

Director: Angela Taylor, Director, Corporate Services

Author(s): Louise Porter, Corporate Planning and Performance Manager

1. Purpose of this report

- 1.1 To provide the LEP Board with an update on a range of corporate and governance matters.

2. Information

- 2.1 As previously agreed, a corporate performance report is now being submitted to each meeting of the LEP Board, to provide information on budgets, performance management, risk, audit, scrutiny and any other matters that emerge. This is in line with recommended practice as set out in the Strengthened Local Enterprise Partnerships document and in line with the commitments in the Assurance Framework.

Revenue Budgets

- 2.2 External audit work on the 2020/21 final accounts is almost concluded and no changes are expected to be made to the results previously published. This includes the LEP draft financial statement as reported to the June meeting.
- 2.3 Monitoring of the 2021/22 budget continues. Whilst risks remain particularly around the impact of and recovery from the pandemic the current forecast remains unchanged at this stage. The risk of not receiving the full CLG core funding for the LEP this year remains very real with £250k of the expected amount now waiting for confirmation from government.
- 2.4 Work is now underway to develop the budget for 2022/23 and refresh the medium term financial strategy and further reports will be brought to the LEP during the process. The LEP Chair is a member of the Finance, Resources and Corporate Committee that is overseeing the development of the budget.

2021/22 LEP Annual Delivery Plan and Corporate Plan

- 2.5 The preparation of the LEP Annual Delivery Plan has been on hold following advice from BEIS earlier in the year, that details of the scope and format for the Plan will follow the conclusion of the LEP Review. However in mid-August a communication was received from the Cities and Local Growth Unit requesting that 2021/22 Annual Delivery Plans are now prepared and submitted by 21st September 2021.
- 2.6 Work is therefore now underway to prepare this plan following a similar format to that used in previous years. The Delivery Plan will be developed as a standalone document, but will also form an integral part of the organisation's overarching Corporate Plan, which sets out the priorities for the LEP and the Combined Authority as a whole.
- 2.7 In view of the relatively short notice that has been given of the 21st September submission deadline, the LEP Board is asked to delegate final sign off of the content of this to the Chair of the LEP Board and the Managing Director.
- 2.8 The wider Corporate Plan for 2021/22 is currently being produced, following a full review of the organisation's detailed business plans which were originally approved by the Combined Authority in February 2021, alongside the associated budgets for the year. The review of detailed business plans was undertaken following the transition to the new Mayoral Combined Authority model in May 2021, in order to reassess the key priorities of each of the six directorates and to ensure the mayoral pledges and priorities are adequately reflected in these.
- 2.9 The Corporate Plan will draw on the updated versions of the business plans and will set out the key priorities of the West Yorkshire Combined Authority and LEP in an accessible and engaging format. Following feedback from the Finance, Resource and Corporate Committee, the Corporate Plan will also include strategic targets and ambitions for the Region in addition to more detailed targets relating to the Combined Authority's specific contribution.

2020/21 Corporate Performance

- 2.10 The Corporate Plan for 2020/21 was structured around four overarching corporate priorities of boosting productivity, delivering 21st Century transport, enabling inclusive growth and supporting clean growth. A comprehensive suite of Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) was in place during the financial year to assess the organisation's specific contribution towards achieving these four corporate priorities.
- 2.11 A copy of the final year end results for these 2020/21 KPI's is provided at **Appendix 1** for information. The analysis of performance against objectives in 2020/21 reflects a positive position overall. Most of the indicators are assessed as green, indicating objectives supporting the strategic aims and themes for the region have been achieved.

Corporate risk update

- 2.12 In line with the provisions of the corporate risk management strategy, regular review of the key strategic risks affecting the organisation continues to be undertaken and the corporate risk register updated accordingly.
- 2.13 A summary of the headline strategic risks is included at **Appendix 2** to this report. Since the last reporting period the specific risks relating to continuity of day to day Combined Authority services during the transfer to the Mayoral model have been closed. Where any residual risks remain (e.g. embedding the new Mayoral arrangements), these are being managed through directorate or service level risk registers.
- 2.14 Work is also underway to align risk management and reporting processes for the Policing and Crime Team, following their transfer to the Combined Authority in May. In the first instance it is envisaged that the directorate risk register for the Strategy, Communications and Policing directorate would highlight any key risks relating to policing matters and these would be escalated to the Corporate Risk Register as necessary, and through the relevant policing committee structures.

Internal Audit

- 2.15 The internal audit plan as approved by the Governance and Audit Committee of the Combined Authority covers the activities of the whole organisation. To date no audit assignments specifically on LEP activities have yet been completed for 2021/22.

Overview and Scrutiny Committees

- 2.16 At the June meeting of the Combined Authority it was agreed to create three Overview and Scrutiny Committees for the coming year, with the broad remits of corporate, economic and transport. The work programmes for the new committees are at an early stage of development and the LEP Board will be advised of any work that is directly relevant to its activities.

3. Clean Growth Implications

- 3.1 None arising directly from this report.

4. Financial Implications

- 4.1 As set out in the report.

5. Legal Implications

- 5.1 None arising directly from this report.

6. Staffing Implications

- 6.1 None arising directly from this report.

7. External Consultees

7.1 None.

8. Recommendations

8.1 That the LEP Board note the corporate performance information provided.

9. Background Documents

9.1 None.

10. Appendices

Appendix 1 – 2020/21 KPIs

Appendix 2 – Strategic risks