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

Date: 31 March 2022

Subject: **Committee Update Report**

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1. Purpose of this report

- 1.1 To provide the LEP Board with a brief update from the six Thematic Committees at the West Yorkshire Combined Authority. Any substantial items from the committees will be brought to the LEP Board as separate agenda items for comment and feedback.

2. Information

Thematic Committee Updates

2.1 Business, Economy and Innovation Committee

- 2.1.1 The next Business, Economy and Innovation Committee will take place on the 29 March so a verbal update will be provided at the LEP Board meeting.

2.2 Climate, Energy and Environment Committee

- 2.2.1 The Climate, Energy and Environment Committee met on 22nd March.
- 2.2.2 The Committee received a paper and presentation to inform discussion about prioritising the actions within the Climate and Environment Plan. This follows the decision by the Combined Authority to allocate £40m of gainshare to the Tackling the Climate Emergency Investment Priority.
- 2.2.3 The Committee recognised that all of the actions need to be taken forward, but prioritisation would be helpful to enable the development of proposals to be sequenced. It also noted that those proposals which will help people to manage energy demand would be most helpful. It provisionally concluded to prioritise:
- Better Homes Hub / Retrofit
 - Flood resilience
 - Package of Support for Businesses

- Better Neighbourhoods
- Green Skills and Training
- Solar Photovoltaic

- 2.2.4 The Committee also received a paper and held a discussion on transport decarbonisation, which brought together all the current activity across different modes.
- 2.2.5 The Carbon Impact Assessment materials were published and considered by the Committee. This is the outcome of the work begun in 2020 to improve the CA's and partners' ability to assess the carbon impact of schemes (both transport and non-transport). Substantial guidance has been published and will now be embedded in the Assurance Framework and scheme development going forwards.
- 2.2.6 The Committee also received papers updating on the Green Skills Taskforce and Better Homes Hub, and a presentation from the Environment Agency on Climate Adaptation and Resilience.
- 2.2.7 The Committee also reviewed and agreed the monitoring indicators to inform progress against our climate objectives, subject to including a more explicit reference to the overall carbon emissions target.

2.3.1 **Culture, Arts and Creative Industries Committee**

- 2.3.2 The Culture, Arts and Creative Industries Committee took place on the 16th March. The Committee noted the latest national policy developments on culture, including Levelling Up White Paper and Arts Council announcements to focus more national expenditure on culture outside London to other parts of the country.
- 2.3.3 The Committee reviewed the latest evidence base on the culture economy. This showed a continued recovery from COVID, apart from a blip during December and January due to the impact of the OMICRON variant. The Committee were also informed of and supported the Combined Authorities plan to increase the evaluation and analysis resource on culture to ensure robust evaluation of investment and high quality regional proposals for national funding.
- 2.3.4 The review and refresh of the Leeds City Region Cultural Framework is now underway and this will inform how we invest in culture. The committee were presented with proposed themes of 1. Culture and sport for all; 2. A diverse and confident cultural and creative workforce; 3. A Vibrant, Diverse and Sustainable Culture Sector; and 4. A Creative, Sustainable and Vibrant Region with Culture at its Heart. The Committee will be developing this framework in more depth at a workshop being held on the 12th April.
- 2.3.5 The Committee considered the framework for investing in years of culture and festivals. As part of this paper, views were sought on proposals to invest in Leeds Year of Culture 2023, Kirklees Year of Music 2023 and Bradford

Literature Festivals. Views from the Committee were fed into the Combined Authority meeting.

2.3.6 The Committee were presented an update on activity on the creative economy through the Creative Catalyst. This included an update on the launch of Indielab, the Creative Catalyst Accelerator which is delivering for 26 businesses. There was also an update on export support, mentoring and the Mayor's Screen Diversity Programme.

2.3.7 The Committee discussed the intention to explore cultural education programmes at a region wide level. This will give children from all backgrounds access to a range of culture. As part of this, a proposal to develop and deliver a West Yorkshire Young Poet Laureates Programme, working with Simon Armitage was supported (subject to matched funding from Arts Council England).

2.4 Employment and Skills Committee

2.4.1 No meeting of this committee has taken place since the last LEP board meeting.

2.5 Place, Regeneration and Housing Committee (08 March 2022)

2.5.1 Levelling Up White Paper. The committee was informed about the implications and opportunities of the Government's Levelling Up White Paper on the region. The report was noted.

2.5.2 Capital Spending and Project Approvals. The committee approved the progression of six schemes through the Combined Authority's Assurance Framework:

TCF Dewsbury Bus Station	Approval of outline business case and for work to commence on full business case Funding approved - £0 Total value of the scheme - £14,337,600 Total value of Combined Authority funding - £14,337,600
York Station Gateway	Approval of the change request for development costs of £1,050,000, to extend the scheme delivery timescales to August 2024 and to reallocate the already approved development costs of £2,684,000 from the West Yorkshire plus Transport Fund to the Transforming Cities Fund. Funding approved - £1,050,000 Total value of the scheme - £26,379,433 Total value of Combined Authority funding - £26,379,433

BHF Leeds East	Approval of outline business case and for work to commence on full business case Details of the costs and funding approved were outlined in an exempt appendix as these are commercially sensitive.
BHF Burmantofts	Approval of outline business case and for work to commence on full business case Details of the costs and funding approved were outlined in an exempt appendix as these are commercially sensitive.
BHF Bingley	Approval of full business case and for work to commence on activity 5 (delivery) Details of the costs and funding approved were outlined in an exempt appendix as these are commercially sensitive.
BHF South Bradford	Approval of full business case and for work to commence on activity 5 (delivery) Details of the costs and funding approved were outlined in an exempt appendix as these are commercially sensitive.

2.5.3 West Yorkshire Regional Brownfield Analysis Report and Dashboard. The committee:

- Noted the contents of the report as an up to date evidence base of the regional brownfield housing supply and past 10 years of delivery,
- Considered and commented on the recommendations and actions contained within the report, including how best to reflect and develop the analysis further within the forthcoming regional Housing Strategy work
- Agreed to write to Government to propose they implement the key recommendations in the report.

2.5.4 One Public Estate Programme- Meanwhile Use Report. The committee approved the Meanwhile Use Report prepared as part of the One Public Estate Programme and discussed and provided a view on the consultants recommendations which will inform how the report is taken forward.

2.5.5 Transport Fund Review 2021. The report detailed the process and outcomes of the annual review of the Transport Fund 2021 and set out recommendations for revised project allocations and over-programming. The following recommendations were approved:

- The proposed revised funding allocations as set out in the report;
- The revised programme dates for each project as set out in the report.
- The increase in over-programming on the Transport Fund from £115.34 million to £151.20 million.

2.5.6 Leeds Public Transport Investment Programme (LPTIP) Review 2022 – Part Three. The report was for the third review of the Leeds Public Transport Investment Programme (LPTIP) and set out recommendations for managing

the different financial elements of the Programme and that full spend of the DfT grant of £173.5m is forecast. The LPTIP Review Part 4 is planned to take place following the end of the Financial Year (FY) 2021/22 to allow for any further changes in the final months of the Programme. The following recommendations were approved:

- The reprofiled project and package budget approvals as set out in the report.
- That the Combined Authority issues an addendum to the existing Funding Agreement with Leeds City Council for the LPTIP Corn Exchange scheme.

2.5.7 Broadband Contract Three – Update. The Committee noted progress to date on the Broadband Contract and the delivery of Superfast West Yorkshire and York Broadband, Contract Three.

2.6 Transport Committee

2.6.1 Transport Committee on 4 March was updated on the ongoing impact of the pandemic on demand for bus and rail travel and the impact that this is having on the economics and funding of public transport. A specific discussion was held on the financial challenges to the CA faced by uncertainties in the bus sector.

2.6.2 The Committee reviewed progress with the Rail Strategy in the light of the Government Integrated Rail Plan. It was also updated on the process to establish a Bus Enhanced Partnership which was subsequently approved by the Combined Authority on 17 March

2.6.3 A review of the terms of reference, membership and roles of Transport Committee was discussed by Transport Committee ahead of the decision to proceed with new arrangements for which was made by the Combined Authority on 17 March

3. Tackling the Climate Emergency Implications

3.1 There are no climate emergency implications directly arising from this report. Any implications from reports will have been addressed at the respective meeting of that Thematic Committee.

4. Inclusive Growth Implications

4.1 There are no inclusive growth implications directly arising from this report. Any implications from reports will have been addressed at the respective meeting of that Thematic Committee.

5. Equality and Diversity Implications

- 5.1 There are no equality and diversity implications directly arising from this report. Any implications from reports will have been addressed at the respective meeting of that Thematic Committee.

6. Financial Implications

- 6.1 There are no financial implications directly arising from this report. Any implications from reports will have been addressed at the respective meeting of that Thematic Committee.

7. Legal Implications

- 7.1 There are no legal implications directly arising from this report. Any implications from reports will have been addressed at the respective meeting of that Thematic Committee.

8. Staffing Implications

- 8.1 There are no staffing implications directly arising from this report. Any implications from reports will have been addressed at the respective meeting of that Thematic Committee.

9. External Consultees

- 9.1 No external consultations have been undertaken.

10. Recommendations

- 10.1 That the LEP Board notes the updates from the Thematic Committees.

11. Background Documents

There are no background documents referenced in this report.

12. Appendices

There are no appendices to this report.