

Report to: Place, Regeneration and Housing Committee

Date: 20 April 2022

Subject: Economic Monitoring

Director: Alan Reiss, Director of Strategy, Communications and Policing

Author: Peter Glover, Economic Evidence Manager

Is this a key decision?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Is the decision eligible for call-in by Scrutiny?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Does the report contain confidential or exempt information or appendices?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
If relevant, state paragraph number of Schedule 12A, Local Government Act 1972, Part 1:	
Are there implications for equality and diversity?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No

## 1. Purpose of this report

- 1.1 To set out the plans for future monitoring indicators and reporting arrangements to support the work of the Committee.
- 1.2 To seek approval for these arrangements subject to any comments from the Committee.

## 2. Information

### Future monitoring arrangements

- 2.1 Under proposals submitted to the Combined Authority in December 2021 it was agreed that a new approach to reporting would be adopted. A key part of this involves the development of a set of socio-economic indicators for each of the seven portfolio committees of the Combined Authority, including the Place, Regeneration and Housing Committee. Each committee will be consulted on a set of indicators relevant to its remit and receive regular reporting against these indicators, with this topic becoming a standard item on the Committee's agenda.

- 2.2 The indicators will also be incorporated into the next iteration of State of the Region report, the Combined Authority's annual stock-take of West Yorkshire's socio-economic performance, to be published later this year. The State of the Region indicators are intended to provide a high level, strategic picture of performance against this priority rather than a detailed examination of operational performance of specific projects. However, operational indicators can be mapped against these strategic indicators to show the linkages and contribution of operational activities to identified impact areas.
- 2.3 The analysis will also examine the full range of equality, diversity and inclusion implications, building on the Women and Girls report published in 2021. The main State of the Region report will be supplemented with a series of published interactive dashboards which will allow users to drill down into the available data for each indicator under each priority.

### **Proposed indicators**

- 2.4 State of the Region 2021 assessed performance against 40 indicators linked to the five Strategic Economic Framework priorities. The indicators listed below are judged to be directly relevant to the remit of the Place, Regeneration and Housing committee.
- Healthy life expectancy
  - Net additional dwellings
  - Housing affordability
  - Rented housing costs
  - Gigabit capable internet coverage<sup>1</sup>
  - Take-up of superfast (or above) broadband services
  - Mobile coverage (4G and 5G)
  - Building energy efficiency<sup>2</sup>
  - Households in fuel poverty.
- 2.5 It is **proposed to retain these indicators for future reporting** as they remain core measures of West Yorkshire's progress on strengthening its business sector.
- 2.6 The extensive remit of the Committee in respect of the themes of place and regeneration means that it will wish to be kept informed of the wider picture of socio-economic progress presented by State of the Region. There are also several indicators that have a strong spatial component, such as access to green space and premises at risk of flooding. Briefings to the Committee will be set in the context of a concise overview of key developments drawn from the full range of indicators listed in the appendix.

---

<sup>1</sup> Digital infrastructure indicators also within scope of Business, Economy and Innovation Committee.

<sup>2</sup> Building energy efficiency and households in fuel poverty also within scope of Climate, energy and environment Committee.

### **Levelling up indicators**

- 2.7 The recent Levelling Up white paper also set out a series of indicators linked to 12 levelling up missions. The more than 40 metrics / indicators contained within the White Paper, are designed to measure progress in addressing regional and sub-regional disparities in the UK.
- 2.8 Several of the levelling-up missions and their associated indicators are of relevance to the work of the Committee, including those dealing with well-being (Mission 8), pride in place (Mission 9), and housing (Mission 10).
- 2.9 An overview of the levelling up indicators is provided in the appendix. There are a number of points to note:
- Many of the indicators are already contained within the existing State of the Region indicator bank
  - A number of the indicators cannot currently be measured at West Yorkshire level (e.g. those relating to pride in place) although there is an intention on the part of government to make more data available in future. These could be treated as supplementary / contextual indicators (with reporting at Yorkshire and the Humber or national level as data allows) until West Yorkshire level data become available.
- 2.10 The general approach that is recommended is to treat the levelling up metrics (other than those that are already part of the State of the Region basket) as supplementary indicators that will be considered alongside the core indicators (within an appendix to the main report). This is in the interests of keeping the list of core indicators to a manageable level and focusing on the metrics that are most directly relevant to our priorities, whilst still reporting on the full range of levelling up indicators, which are clearly of public interest.

### **Inclusion and equality and diversity**

- 2.11 As noted above, State of the Region 2022 will include a dedicated sub-report on Equality, Diversity and Inclusion, which will analyse key socio-economic indicators by individual characteristics, including ethnicity, sex, disability status and deprivation status – the purpose is to highlight specific examples of inequalities. This approach will be applied to the proposed indicators using all available data, supplemented by a literature review to shed further light on the relevant issues. Spatial analysis will provide insight into how these issues play out across West Yorkshire.
- 2.12 It is proposed that an in-depth presentation of the relevant messages from State of the Region be provided to the Committee soon after publication.

## **3. Tackling the Climate Emergency Implications**

- 3.1 The core indicators relating to progress on emissions will be considered by the Climate, energy and environment Committee in the first instance. The indicators proposed above will provide insight into the role of housing and digital infrastructure in tackling the climate emergency.

#### **4. Inclusive Growth Implications**

- 4.1 The proposed indicators feature several with direct implications for inclusive growth, including those relating to housing affordability, access to digital infrastructure and fuel poverty.

#### **5. Equality and Diversity Implications**

- 5.1 Future reporting will bring out equality and diversity implications across all indicators where data are available, as noted above.

#### **6. Financial Implications**

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

#### **7. Legal Implications**

- 7.1 There are no legal implications directly arising from this report.

#### **8. Staffing Implications**

- 8.1 There are no direct staffing implications directly arising from this report. However, the Committee should note our plans to increase capacity in this area.

#### **9. External Consultees**

- 9.1 No external consultations have been undertaken.

#### **10. Recommendations**

- 10.1 That the Committee reviews the proposed indicators with a view to approving them and / or amending them or suggesting additional indicators.

#### **11. Background Documents**

There are no background documents referenced in this report.

#### **12. Appendices**

Appendix 1: overview of indicators.