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

Date: 21 September 2022

Subject: **Committee Update Report**

Led by: Mark Roberts, Interim Chair

Lead Officer: Myles Larrington, Governance Services Officer

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 Committee met on the 12 July and considered a range of reports to support regional business growth with a focus on the prioritisation and delivery of interventions.
- 2.1.2 The Committee considered and endorsed the overall proposed pipeline of interventions and two specific programmes in development: Business Growth West Yorkshire and Regional Innovation Support.
- 2.1.3 The Committee also discussed and supported the Digital Skills Plan (for LEP Board endorsement at item 11).

2.2 Climate, Energy and Environment Committee

- 2.2.1 The Climate, Energy and Environment Committee met virtually (and as a result informally) on the 19 July as a result of the extreme heat wave that the UK was experiencing at the time.
- 2.2.2 Members considered a report and presentation to update them on the latest position on the State of the Region monitoring indicators relating to climate and the environment and commented on proposed changes to broaden the analysis to include a wider number of greenhouse gases.

- 2.2.3 Members considered a report and provided feedback on the scope and activity to develop seven prioritise programmes identified in the Climate and Environment Plan, including their progression through the Combined Authority's Assurance Framework. The Strategic Outline Case for the seven programmes will be brought to the October meeting of the Committee for endorsement.
- 2.2.4 Two connected reports on flooding were considered by members. The first was to introduce the West Yorkshire Flood Innovation Programme and its remit to members. The second was an update on the West Yorkshire Flood Programme and to endorse the proposed programme prior to progression into the Combined Authority's assurance process. The contents of both reports were noted, with the Flood Programme being endorsed.
- 2.2.5 Members considered a report on the Carbon Impact Assessment, principally to provide an awareness of and opportunity to provide feedback on the outcomes of the carbon assessment of individual schemes. The contents of the report were noted.

2.3 Culture, Heritage and Sport Committee

- 2.3.1 The name of the Committee has been changed to the 'Culture, Heritage and Sport Committee' to better reflect the nature and scope of the Committee's work.
- 2.3.2 The Chair informed the Committee that WYCA has submitted an Expression of Interest to DCMS Create Growth programme, which focused on developing the investment-readiness of SMEs working in our screen, gaming, textiles and music sectors, and we await the outcome.
- 2.3.3 Catherine Mitchell of Arts Council England provided background to the Committee on the ACE relocate fund, which aims to help National Portfolio Organisations relocate out of London. This fund could have an impact on the West Yorkshire culture sector if organisations choose to relocate to the region.
- 2.3.4 The Head of Culture, Heritage and Sport Policy presented a report updating the committee on the revision of the Culture, Heritage and Sport Framework, and plans for public engagement. The Committee noted the report and approved commencement of the public consultation. (for LEP Board to note at item 10).
- 2.3.5 The Economic Evidence Manager presented the report to the Committee to provide an update on the latest economic data relating to the sector. The report highlights that the impact of the Omicron variant of the Covid-19 pandemic was short-lived with strong performance seen across most indicators during early 2022. When the report was compiled, there was limited evidence within the published data that the cost-of-living crisis is having a negative impact on the sector, although the UK is at an early stage of the crisis.
- 2.3.6 Recruitment activity for creative and cultural roles remains strong and national data shows that the sector faces some of the most acute recruitment difficulties of any sector.

2.4 Employment and Skills Committee

- 2.4.1 The Committee met on 6 July and discussed a draft of the **Digital Skills Plan**, agreeing to delegate any further changes to the MD in consultation with the Chair of the Committee. The Committee received a presentation on the development of the employment and skills pipeline of programmes and interventions, commented on the scope and prioritisation of these and endorsed the development of a full business case for **Employment West Yorkshire**.
- 2.4.2 The Committee considered a report to update on progress with the devolved **Adult Education Budget (AEB)** and on plans to further improve the responsiveness of AEB delivery in Year 2 and recommended four flexibilities for approval:
- Expanding the age of entitlement for a 'first full level 2'
 - Expanding the Digital Entitlement.
 - Test Pilot – Bridging programmes that support progression to Level 3.
 - Test Pilot – Increasing the number of courses 19 – 23s are entitled to.

2.5 Place, Regeneration and Housing Committee

- 2.5.1 The Committee met on 7 July and considered a report on the early-stage pipeline and programme development work for Creating Great Places and Accelerated Infrastructure to inform the approach to delivering place and infrastructure pipelines. The Committee also received an update report and discussed proposals for the £383k Safer Streets funding that will support the safety of women and girls in parks.
- 2.5.2 On digital infrastructure, the committee agreed the proposals to work on a new digital infrastructure project using Broadband Gainshare. This is in the context of the Department for Culture, Media and Sport's (DCMS) national Project Gigabit initiative.
- 2.5.3 The Committee received an update on the Housing Pipeline Revenue Fund programme which is on track to deliver capacity and technical support to develop housing pipeline projects from concept to feasibility. A progress report on the Brownfield Housing Fund was also received and the Committee agreed proposed changes to the pipeline of projects
- 2.5.4 **Project Approvals.** September's Committee approved the progression of three schemes through the Combined Authority's Assurance Framework:

<p>Scheme: BHF - Cow Green</p> <p>Location: Calderdale</p>	<p>Approval to proceed through decision point 3 (outline business case) and work commences on activity 4 (full business case).</p> <p>Total value of scheme – indicative costs at this stage are £17,000,000 (to be determined at full business case)</p> <p>Total indicative value of Combined Authority funding - £2,100,000</p> <p>Funding recommendation sought - £0</p> <p>A decision by the Place, Regeneration and Housing Committee using the delegated authority from the Combined Authority is sought as part of this report</p>
<p>Scheme: BHF – South Huddersfield</p> <p>Location: Kirklees</p>	<p>Approval to proceed through decision point 3 (outline business case) and work commences on activity 4 (full business case).</p> <p>Total value of scheme – indicative costs at this stage are £15,000,000 (to be determined at full business case)</p> <p>Total indicative value of Combined Authority funding - £869,000</p> <p>Funding recommendation sought - £0</p> <p>A decision by the Place, Regeneration and Housing Committee using the delegated authority from the Combined Authority is sought as part of this report</p>
<p>Scheme: BHF – Leeds Village</p> <p>Location: Leeds</p>	<p>Approval to proceed through decision point 3 (outline business case) and work commences on activity 4 (full business case).</p> <p>Total value of scheme – indicative costs at this stage are £154,000,000 (to be determined at full business case)</p> <p>Total indicative value of Combined Authority funding - £7,667,000</p> <p>Funding recommendation sought - £0</p> <p>A decision by the Place, Regeneration and Housing Committee using the delegated authority from the Combined Authority is sought as part of this report</p>

2.6 Transport Committee

- 2.6.1 The Transport Committee met on the 1 July and considered a range of reports and transport schemes for capital approval.

2.6.2 The Committee were updated on the latest position on the Bus Service Improvement Plan Enhanced Partnership Scheme ahead of it being approved at the Combined Meeting on the 7 July. The Committee considered the update on the Enhanced Partnership Scheme in the light of the Bus Network Sustainability Review. This review reported to the Committee that 11% of the bus network (measured by mileage) is currently not generating sufficient revenue to continue to operate on a commercial basis once the funding ends in October. This could impact up to 62 routes where some or all of the journeys could be withdrawn. Since the meeting, and following pressure from the Mayor, the Government has extended funding for the bus network to March 2023, significantly reducing the forecast service cuts that were expected in October.

2.6.3 The Committee also discussed the transport indicators for the next iteration of the State of the Region report. The next iteration of State of the Region report, the Combined Authority’s annual stock-take of West Yorkshire’s socio-economic performance, will be published later this year. Indicators within State of the Region are intended to provide a high level, strategic picture of performance against the Combined Authorities priorities rather than a detailed examination of operational performance of specific projects. The Committee discussed the range of indicators for the State of the Region report and their alignment to the Corporate Priorities. The Transport Committee will also be presented with the State of Transport Report later in the year.

2.6.4 **Project Approvals.** The Committee approved the progression of five schemes through the Combined Authority’s Assurance Framework:

<p>Scheme: Corridor Improvement Programme – A638 Wakefield Doncaster Road</p> <p>Location: Wakefield</p>	<p>Approval to proceed through decision point 3 (OBC) and work commences on activity 4 (FBC).</p> <p>Total value of the scheme - £6,794,000</p> <p>Total value of Combined Authority funding - £6,300,000</p> <p>Funding recommendation sought - £1,090,000</p> <p>A decision by the Transport Committee using the delegated authority from the Combined Authority is sought as part of this report</p>
<p>Scheme: Leeds City Centre Cycle Connectivity</p> <p>Location: Leeds</p>	<p>Approval for Phase 1 to proceed through decision point 4 (FBC) and work commences on activity 5 (Delivery).</p> <p>Total value of the scheme - £7,262,173</p> <p>Total value of Combined Authority funding - £7,262,173</p> <p>Funding recommendation sought - £3,769,199</p> <p>A decision by the Transport Committee using the delegated authority from the Combined Authority is sought as part of this report</p>

<p>Scheme: TCF Leeds Station Sustainable Travel Gateway</p> <p>Location: Leeds</p>	<p>Approval to proceed through decision point 4 (FBC) and work commences on activity 5 (delivery), subject to the conditions set by PAT.</p> <p>Total value of the scheme - £36,009,872</p> <p>Total value of Combined Authority funding - £36,009,872</p> <p>Funding recommendation sought - £25,673,833</p> <p>A decision by the Transport Committee using the delegated authority from the Combined Authority is sought as part of this report</p>
<p>Scheme: Zero Emissions Bus Regional Area (Phase 1)</p> <p>Location: West Yorkshire</p>	<p>Approval for Phase 1 to proceed through decision point 4 and work commences on activity 5, Delivery.</p> <p>Total value of the scheme - £56,161,738</p> <p>Total value of Combined Authority funding - £24,565,171</p> <p>Funding recommendation sought - £24,565,171</p> <p>A decision by the Transport Committee using the delegated authority from the Combined Authority is sought as part of this report</p>
<p>Scheme: Active Travel Fund: Local Authority Capital Funding</p> <p>Location: West Yorkshire</p>	<p>Approval to the change request to extend the scheme delivery timescales from March 2023 to March 2024 and to change the scope of the programme from 13 schemes to five due to a reduction in funding available from the Department for Transport.</p> <p>Total value of the scheme - £6,931,250</p> <p>Total value of Combined Authority funding - £6,931,250</p> <p>Funding recommendation sought - £2,616,250</p> <p>A decision by the Transport Committee using the delegated authority from the Combined Authority is sought as part of this report</p>

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

11.1 There are no background documents referenced in this report.

12 Appendices

12.1 There are no appendices to this report.