

Appendix 2: IP3 Portfolio Themes and Programmes

The table below provides an overview of the Investment Priority 3 Portfolio. This is structured with high level themes and the proposed programme(s) within each theme area.

Table A2.1: Proposed Portfolio Themes and Programmes

| Portfolio Theme & Potential Programme(s) | Overview |
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| Housing: Housing Accelerator Fund | Extension of the existing Housing Revenue Fund (HRF), which has supported 59 projects. An extension would enable a similar number to progress towards delivery. A future capital funding programme would assist with unlocking stalled and unviable sites where public funding is required. |
| Employment Land and Development: Employment Accelerator Fund | Provision of revenue funding to support project / business case development and feasibility work. Would enable sites to progress towards delivery including feasibility studies, options appraisal, master planning, development appraisal, equality/diversity impact, infrastructure connectivity including renewables and transport. Greater readiness of schemes could also attract further Government funding. |
| Spatial Priority Area Delivery Models: <i>Programmes TBC</i> | <p>The availability of development finance is constrained in West Yorkshire which has been exacerbated by the pandemic and recent global economic instability. Rising inflation and interest rates, alongside uncertainty in power supply, has led to falling investor confidence. This is hampering delivery including across the Spatial Priority Areas (SPAs).</p> <p>Revenue used to support the development and implementation of delivery routes for Spatial Priority Areas (priority locations for large scale growth and regeneration). Develop a spatially focused approach to delivery, across themes and tailoring development models, utilising a suite of tools such as grants, put options, direct investment, CPO and potential use of Mayoral Development Corporations (MDCs), to suit the site-specific requirements of individual SPAs.</p> |
| Digital Infrastructure: Flexible Gigabit Grants Programme & Gigabit Voucher Programme | <p>There is currently about 82% gigabit broadband coverage in WY which is estimated to rise to c.85% based on known public and private sector investments. There is need for the public sector to intervene to address the remaining 15% of premises.</p> <p>This theme will include programmes that aim to stimulate commercial investment in broadband in areas of market failure. This will include consideration of a local Gigabit Voucher Programme and Flexible Gigabit Grant Programme</p> |
| Digital Infrastructure: Connected Places | <p>Digital technology and innovation are developing at pace and offer a range of opportunities for efficiency, carbon and financial savings within place based applications (referred to as Connected Places, or Smart Cities). Currently there isn't a cohesive approach to this workstream, notwithstanding significant areas of local innovation happening across West Yorkshire.</p> <p>This programme requires evidence base and engagement. Further work is ongoing across the partnership, with commercial support to identify opportunities, challenges and a potential pipeline of connected places activities. This theme would identify opportunities to scale up and deliver this agenda at a West Yorkshire geography.</p> |
| Flood Infrastructure: Capital Flood Infrastructure Programme | <p>In West Yorkshire approximately 39,000 residential properties and 13,000 commercial properties in fall within a flood zone. Flooding is likely to become a more frequent occurrence as a result of climate change.</p> <p>24 schemes have been identified to address this risk, but many need additional investment unlock government contributions and start delivery.</p> <p>NB: Programme approved at Strategic Assessment (Combined Authority, 2 February 2023)</p> |

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| <p>Natural Environment and Green Infrastructure: Proposed programmes in scoping</p> | <p>The natural environment has a critical role to play in underpinning a healthy and resilient population helping to reduce emissions and providing climate ready services and solutions. A high-quality and accessible natural environment is vital for humans, biodiversity and sustainable places.</p> <p>Potential programmes to be developed/supported include: Local Nature Recovery Strategy; White Rose Forest; Green Infrastructure and Access to Health; Regenerative Nature Recovery Schemes; Farmer and Landowner Information and Support Service</p> |
| <p>Safer and Stronger Communities: Safe Parks Pilot</p> | <p>There is a significant disparity between male and female victims of sexual offences and violent crimes in West Yorkshire and nationally. Improving safety for women and girls is a priority reflected in the Mayor's Police and Crime Plan and in her Safety of Women and Girls Strategy, published in 2022.</p> <p>Our Parks for Women and Girls research report with the University of Leeds was published in December 2022 and has given us a wealth of insight into women and girls' perceptions of safety in parks. We are currently writing guidance for a national audience on the design and management of parks, which will be launched in May 2023, to take the next steps in translating this evidence into action.</p> <p>Pilot Safer Parks Project – design principles identified by the research (such as visibility, escape, surveillance, layout), will be applied to a new park or improvements to an existing park, with monitoring before and after to determine any changes in footfall, crime and perceptions of safety.</p> |