

## **Role Profile: Local Enterprise Partnership Chair**

We are seeking a new LEP chair to work alongside the Mayor of West Yorkshire and the members of the Combined Authority to define and re-shape the role of the LEP in light of the national changes brought about by the Levelling Up White Paper (February 2022). Ensuring that the private and public sector partnership is further strengthened within West Yorkshire.

### **Role of the Chair:**

- Provide leadership of the LEP as a non-statutory partnership body to drive inclusive economic growth. Reshaping the LEP in light of national and local changes to ensure that the role of the board, board members and the wider private sector is clear and communicated effectively.
- Support the Mayor of West Yorkshire and members of the Combined Authority to understand the challenges and opportunities faced by the business through the LEP as the primary business advisory board to the Mayor and the MCA.
- Support the development of key regional strategies such as the Economic Strategy and work programmes which address the key priorities for inclusive economic growth and take account of the different economic needs and opportunities across the region.
- Chair and develop an effective LEP Board by managing the contributions of both private and public sector leaders, to ensure that the LEP's work is clear, and strategic in achieving a common goal and purpose.
- Work with the Mayor and Combined Authority to promote the interests of the region in high level negotiations with key influencers in government and business circles, with the broad aim of securing investment in the region.
- Champion and role model equality, diversity and inclusion, adhere at all times to high standards of ethics and governance in public life.

### **Key Responsibilities of the Chair:**

- To chair the public meetings of the LEP Board.
- Ensuring the LEP builds strong local partnerships across West Yorkshire.
- Providing strategic policy advice in respect of the current and future needs of the region's economy to the mayor and mayoral combined authority.
- Ensuring that the LEP is diverse and representative of the places, businesses and communities with the region.
- Proactive communication, consultation and negotiation with key stakeholders regionally and nationally, including politicians, government, businesses and business representative organisations.
- Providing a conduit for business/private sector voice onto MCA decision making panels.
- Leading on an agreed set of business priorities, such as diversity in business, digital transformation, a strong Trade and Investment brand and a focus on start-ups.

- Maintain and further strengthen relationships with business representative groups within the region alongside the mayor.

**Additional roles** will be required in the capacity as LEP Chair. Many roles may be delegated, however as a minimum we would expect the LEP Chair or Deputy Chair to undertake these roles.

**Member, West Yorkshire Combined Authority (Combined Authority):** Bringing together the Mayor, local councils and businesses to make decisions regarding West Yorkshire policies, strategies and funding decisions. (one meeting every two months).

**Member, Northern Powerhouse (NP) 11:** The eleven northern LEPs (one meeting per month).

**Overseas and investor delegations:** to be part of delegations of political and senior business leaders to/from other regions of the world in order to meet and attract key businesses and investors to the region (overseas visits two to three times per year).

**LEP Network Chair Meetings:** The National LEP Network. A bi-annual LEP Chairs meeting provides an opportunity to meet focused around key issues, other responsibilities may be taken on as and when required for the work of the LEP.

## Experience and Attributes

The Chair must be able to demonstrate the following:

- A **private sector business career** with significant **experience of leading** a successful business based within West Yorkshire; to demonstrate credibility and achievement as a major driver of private sector growth in the region.
- Experience of chairing and leading groups of senior leaders with the ability to **build consensus amongst a board** and to inspire people from different backgrounds with a clear sense of purpose.
- Experience of championing Equality, Diversity and Inclusion.
- Experience operating in complex environments, including working with elected members.
- A clear strategic **vision, strong leadership skills and** a demonstrable understanding of the drivers of economic prosperity,
- **Excellent communication skills** including **public speaking**, able to speak with credibility on behalf of business and the private sector.
- **Well connected** with demonstrable links with other businesses and organisations; able to convey the wider messages, unite divergent interests and build wider support for our common goals.
- **Commitment to serve** for up to three years: Chair regular LEP Board meetings, attend other regional/national events, champion the work of the Local Enterprise Partnership and influence Government.
- A strong sense of **passion and pride** in the region to work alongside the Mayor to champion the whole of West Yorkshire at a local, regional, national and International level.

## **Time Commitment & Remuneration [tbc]**

For the position of Chair, it is anticipated that the individual will contribute between four and eight days [tbc] per month in the fulfilment of this demanding leadership role, including occasional evening and overseas ambassadorial/speaking commitments.

An honorarium of xx plus expenses [tbc subject to remuneration advice] will be available, where needed, to secure the time commitment necessary.

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