

Role Profile: Board Members, Local Enterprise Partnership

Benefits of Board Membership

The LEP is the primary business advisory board to the Mayor of West Yorkshire and the Mayoral Combined Authority (MCA). It supports the development of regional strategies 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. As a Board Member you will support the Mayor and the MCA to understand the challenges and opportunities faced by business, providing strategic policy advice in respect of the current and future needs of the region's economy.

This high profile role provides the opportunity to:

- ensure decisions affecting the local area consider broader, more diverse perspectives
- build your senior networks and contacts
- raise your personal profile
- champion key causes and opportunities,
- build your Board experience
- develop new skills and capabilities
- influence business leaders locally and nationally
- drive forward new ideas.

Diversity of Board Members

We are looking for business people who can help us make the best decisions for the region, by representing the diversity of communities and economies in our area. This diversity is one of our key strengths and something we need to capitalise upon. Through the recruitment process we are seeking to broaden the gender and ethnic diversity on the Board and contribute experience and attributes which helps us understand and represent specific places, sectors and approaches including:

- Manufacturing and engineering
- Digital and technology-led innovation
- Construction and infrastructure
- Health and medtech
- Fintech
- Culture and creative
- Clean growth/environmental technologies
- Finance and professional services
- Hospitality/tourism
- Voluntary & Communities / Social Enterprise
- Small / micro business

Role of LEP Board Members:

- Provide strategic input to the LEP Board on driving the growth of the region's economy from a private sector perspective;
- Actively seek to promote the interests of the LEP at key opportunities to influence government and business;
- Contribute to a clear and informed view of the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats facing the regional economy;
- Contribute to the development of the West Yorkshire Combined Authority's 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;
- Champion and promote the work of the Board to relevant partners, organisations, networks and business organisations, engaging in regular consultation opportunities;
- Adhere at all times to high standards of ethics and governance in public life, uphold the Board Code of Conduct and exemplify the Combined Authority's Diversity & Equality Policy;
- You may become involved in supporting specific initiatives or agendas. Involvement, including time commitment will be agreed in advance;
- The LEP Chair will meet you, at your convenience, on a regular basis to gain your input and support any development needs;
- The Mayor and/or LEP Chair will undertake a review with you annually, to assess the year and how we can improve going forward.

Experience and Attributes

Board Members must be able to demonstrate the following:

- A clear strategic **vision, strong leadership skills and** a demonstrable understanding of the drivers of inclusive economic prosperity.
- **Well-connected** with demonstrable links with other businesses and organisations relevant to the Board agenda.
- **Preparedness to assume leadership roles** on specific issues by agreement with the Chair to help drive work forward across the LEP between Board meetings.
- **Excellent communication skills** including **public speaking**.
- Experience of driving **change and innovation** in the private sector
- Significant **experience of leading** a successful business* based within West Yorkshire; to demonstrate credibility and achievement as a driver of private sector growth in the region.
- **Commitment to serve** for up to three years: attend regular LEP Board meetings, other regional/national events and to champion the work of the LEP.

* Board members are welcomed from all different sectors and sizes of business within the region, from all the geographic areas covered by the LEP. We actively encourage more applications from women and BAME communities to ensure a diverse and balanced Board membership.

Nolan Principles

We operate under a Code of Conduct and expect Board members to adhere to the Nolan Principles which provide the 7 principles of Public Life. These are

1. Selflessness

Holders of public office should act solely in terms of the public interest.

2. Integrity

Holders of public office must avoid placing themselves under any obligation to people or organisations that might try inappropriately to influence them in their work. They should not act or take decisions in order to gain financial or other material benefits for themselves, their family, or their friends. They must declare and resolve any interests and relationships.

3. Objectivity

Holders of public office must act and take decisions impartially, fairly and on merit, using the best evidence and without discrimination or bias.

4. Accountability

Holders of public office are accountable to the public for their decisions and actions and must submit themselves to the scrutiny necessary to ensure this.

5. Openness

Holders of public office should act and take decisions in an open and transparent manner. Information should not be withheld from the public unless there are clear and lawful reasons for so doing.

6. Honesty

Holders of public office should be truthful.

7. Leadership

Holders of public office should exhibit these principles in their own behaviour. They should actively promote and robustly support the principles and be willing to challenge poor behaviour wherever it occurs.

Time Commitment & Expenses

For the position of Board Member, it is anticipated that the individual will contribute circa one to two days per month in the fulfilment of this role, including attending 3-4 Board meetings per year, some of which are held in public.

Board positions are honorary and therefore not remunerated, however travel and subsistence expenses may be reimbursed, in accordance with the Combined Authority's Members Allowances Scheme.