

Item 4A: Appendix 1

Select media highlights

January

B Daily: [University of Leeds' 'world-class' £40m Nexus centre appoints letting agent](#)

Creative Space Management has been appointed as letting agents for Nexus, a 'world-class' innovation centre being developed by the University of Leeds. Scheduled to open in autumn 2018, Nexus is offering over 40,000 sq ft of lab and office space for businesses who want to benefit from being connected to areas of University expertise and infrastructure.

BBC Look North (Breakfast): Combined Authority says HS2 could boost City Region job numbers

Yorkshire Evening Post: ['Revolutionary' 30-year Yorkshire transport vision is unveiled](#)

A radical overhaul of ticketing and high speed rail travel between Leeds and Manchester in half an hour are at the centrepiece of a 30 year vision for transport in the North laid out today. Transport for the North's strategic transport plan sets out proposals for a 'world-class railway for the North' and a greater focus on the neglected local road network to make it easier for people and goods to get around the region. **Covered in a range of outlets.**

BQ Magazine: [New industrial strategy to boost region's productivity](#)

Leeds City Region's response to the Government's Industrial Strategy is to boost business productivity and tackle inequality. The ambitious plans, which are being developed by the Leeds City Region Enterprise Partnership (LEP) and West Yorkshire Combined Authority, were discussed earlier this week by business and civic leaders in response to the Government's Industrial Strategy White Paper, published alongside the Budget in November 2017.

Local Gov.co.uk: [LEP moves to become 'most transparent' in England](#)

A local enterprise partnership (LEP) that had funding restrictions slapped on it by the Government has approved transparency measures that go beyond national guidance. The Leeds City Region LEP said its new constitution would make it the most transparent in the country after it took on board all of the recommendations of the Ney review, which called on the partnerships to publish their agendas, decisions, accounts and a rolling schedule of projects funded.

Insider: [Nexus economic benefits showcased](#)

The University of Leeds has showcased the potential benefits of Nexus, its new £40m innovation and enterprise centre, to the Leeds City Region. The aim of the project is to enable easier access to the university's research expertise in key growth sectors, as well as support to foster collaboration and innovation, Nexus aims to help

take new ideas from concept to market and drive business growth. **Covered in a range of outlets.**

Business Desk: [Private sector backs City Region MIPIM delegation](#)

Private sector support for Leeds City Region's attendance at international property conference MIPIM has continued to develop, with 12 sponsors confirming their commitment since the start of 2018. The backing from the region's firms follows last year's attendance at MIPIM, which generated more than 430 inward investment enquiries across the delegation and led to visits from major global investors and representatives of internationally recognised brands.

Huddersfield Examiner: [Two derelict Colne Valley mills could be transformed into hundreds of homes](#)

Two derelict Colne Valley mills could be transformed into hundreds of homes creating thousands of jobs. The exciting plans are being mooted for Bank Bottom Mill plus New Mills, known locally as Crowther's Mill, in Marsden. West Yorkshire Combined Authority (WYCA) papers say that Bank Bottom Mill could provide 1,492 jobs or 275 homes, while New Mills could be suitable for 1,672 jobs or 309 homes. **Covered in a range of outlets.**

Yorkshire Post (comment): [Transparency will shine a light on real democracy](#)

Two weeks ago, this newspaper challenged West Yorkshire Combined Authority – one of the myriad bodies responsible for the area's economic development – to become the most transparent in the land in the wake of disturbing revelations about its financial management.

February

Huddersfield Examiner: [How 5,000 tonnes of soil has been removed to shore up and widen Salterhebble Hill](#)

A road widening scheme close to Calderdale Royal Hospital in Halifax is on track to finish by the summer. The huge project to increase traffic capacity at Salterhebble Hill has seen more than 5,000 tonnes of soil and rubble dug out already, Calderdale Council has revealed. The improvements to tackle congestion along the A629, which began last August, will see it widened to four lanes.

Yorkshire Evening Post: [Northern schools 'must be at top of Minister's in-tray'](#)

Improving schools in the North should be "at the top of the in-tray" for the new Education Secretary, according to a major study published today. A new report argues there is still a significant North-South divide in education, with too many northern young people, especially those from disadvantaged homes, falling behind other parts of the UK. **Covered in a range of outlets.**

Business Link: [Huddersfield builder wins work to transform 3M Buckley Centre](#)

Huddersfield building contractor Illingworth and Gregory Ltd has won a tender to make significant changes to the 3M Buckley Innovation Centre as part of the Huddersfield Innovation and Incubation Project. HIIP has been funded through a £2.9m grant from the Leeds City Region Enterprise Partnership (LEP) Growth Deal.

Insider Media: [College of building campus taking shape](#)

Work on Leeds College of Building's brand-new campus in the South Bank area of the city has reached an important milestone with the 400-tonne steel frame now under construction. The structural frame has been designed by HBPW Consulting Engineers and will be erected by Finley Structures over a ten-week period.

BQ Magazine: [Combined Authority and LEP invest over £420m in region](#)

West Yorkshire Combined Authority and Leeds City Region Enterprise Partnership have invested more than £423m since its creation in 2014. The main bulk of the funding has been provided through the £1bn Leeds City Region Enterprise Partnership (LEP) Growth Deal, agreed with Government in 2014, and the £1bn West Yorkshire-plus Transport Fund.

BBC: [Bus network plans announced in Leeds](#)

Plans to double the number of bus journeys made in Leeds in the next 10 years have been announced by the city council. The project will be funded by cash originally earmarked for the trolley bus scheme, which was rejected in 2016.

Yorkshire Business Daily: [New Campaign Aims to Inspire Young People's Career Choices](#)

Leeds City Region Enterprise Partnership (the LEP) is launching a new campaign to inspire young people in making decisions about future jobs. Future Goals, a high profile careers campaign designed by young people for young people, teachers and parents launched on Monday 26 February 2018, a week before National Careers and Apprenticeship Week, and aims to raise awareness of career opportunities in the City Region's key sectors.

Business Link: [£134m ERDF funding allocated in Leeds City Region](#)

Almost 90% of the money assigned to the Leeds City Region through the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) has now been allocated to projects that boost business growth and create more and better jobs. According to the latest figures, £134 million – or 86.5% of the entire Leeds City Region ERDF pot – has been allocated or committed to projects that support firms to grow, become more efficient or increase productivity.