
Report to: Inclusive Growth and Public Policy Panel

Date: 4 December 2018

Subject: **Workshop Report**

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1. Purpose of this report

- 1.1 To note the Panel held its first workshop in November and that the discussions considered in the report and elsewhere on the agenda should inform the Panel's work programme.

2. Information

- 2.1 A workshop was requested by the Panel to consider with members and wider stakeholders emerging work priorities around good work, digital inclusion, and health. The workshop therefore brought together Panel members, community sector organisations, community service leads from West Yorkshire districts, and Combined Authority colleagues.
- 2.2 Cllr Pandor opened the workshop and emphasised that it is vital for partners to make a real impact on delivering inclusive growth through a focus on practical projects and interventions across the City Region.
- 2.3 Nicola Greenan, who facilitated the workshop, echoed the need for a radical approach to inclusive growth in order to bring about real change for residents who have not been able to benefit from wider economic opportunities.
- 2.4 It was recognised however that inclusive growth currently feels like a 'top down' approach that opts everyone in without a progressive, distinctive approach to this work. It was concluded that there is an ongoing need to continue to discuss the term, what it means for our region to enable us to ultimately have a more defined, long term, targeted approach that transforms the region, not just a blanket approach.
- 2.5 To provide attendees with background information, three local practitioners gave presentations, including Kristal Ireland from LNER (on digital inclusion),

Andrew Devonald from Grant Thornton (on good employment) and Corrine Harvey from Public Health England (on health). Background evidence papers for each theme are included as appendices to this report.

2.6 Attendees were split into three thematic groups to enable further discussion. Each group discussed key practical challenges/obstacles and potential solutions and examples of local best practice, including those which could potentially be taken forward as local pilot projects or rolled out across the region. The detail of these discussions is appended to the reports on digital inclusion, health and good work found elsewhere on the agenda. In summary, these discussions covered the following:

- **Good work:** identified the role of the schools in providing good careers advice, the need for community led approaches to tackling stubborn pockets of deprivation, the role of employers in offering 'good jobs', the need for inclusive recruitment practices, and for the aspirations of young people to be matched by employers. Possible solutions identified included building on existing community programmes, developing in due course an "Employer Charter", building on the LCR Enterprise Adviser Network to boost engagement between employers and schools, and adopting sector based approaches, e.g. on social care.
- **Digital Inclusion:** focussed on challenges around basic digital skills and access to the internet. Possible solutions included mapping voluntary and community sector organisations, developing a pathway for learning, providing Wi-Fi in community areas, and leveraging the opportunity of Channel 4. Examples of local good practice included 100% Digital Leeds, community hubs and training and various support programmes.
- **Health:** highlighted the importance of wider determinants of health, the need to consider mental health, lack of primary service provision in deprived areas and environmental factors (e.g. derived poor road planning, low quality public realm, and poor quality housing). Possible solutions included replicating successful programmes, e.g. Best Start (focus using on first 1000 days), rebalancing health spend towards prevention, helping vulnerable people in the round (e.g. GM integrated housing and debt advice) and the Healthy Streets initiative.

3. Financial Implications

3.1 There are no financial implications arising from this report.

4. Legal Implications

4.1 There are no legal implications directly arising from this report.

5. Staffing Implications

5.1 None as a result of this report

6. External Consultees

6.1 None.

7. Recommendations

7.1 To note that the Panel held its first workshop in November and that the key points raised and discussions considered in the report and elsewhere on the agenda should inform the Panel's work programme.

8. Background Documents

8.1 None

9. Appendices

9.1 Appendix 1 - Good work evidence

9.2 Appendix 2 - Digital inclusion evidence

9.3 Appendix 3 – Health evidence