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Friday, 4 March 2022

To: Members of the MCA - Housing and Infrastructure Board and Appropriate Officers

You are hereby invited to a meeting of the South Yorkshire Mayoral Combined Authority to be held at **Virtual Meeting**, on: **Tuesday, 15 March 2022 at 1.00 pm** for the purpose of transacting the business set out in the agenda.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D. Smith'.

Dr Dave Smith
Chief Executive/ Head of Paid Service



You can view the agenda and papers at www.sheffieldcityregion.org.uk or use a smart phone camera and scan the QR code

Member Distribution

Councillor Terry Fox (Co-Chair)
Gemma Smith (Co-Chair)

Damian Allen
Councillor Amy Brookes
Councillor Tim Cheetham
Councillor Glyn Jones
Councillor Paul Wood
Michael Faulks

Martin Swales

Sheffield City Council
Private Sector LEP Board
Member
Doncaster MBC
Rotherham MBC
Barnsley MBC
Doncaster MBC
Sheffield City Council
Private Sector LEP Board
Member
South Yorkshire MCA

MCA - Housing and Infrastructure Board

Tuesday, 15 March 2022 at 1.00 pm

Venue: Virtual Meeting



Agenda

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At:			

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MCA - HOUSING AND INFRASTRUCTURE BOARD

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON:

TUESDAY, 1 MARCH 2022 AT 1.00 PM

VIRTUAL MEETING



Present:

Councillor Terry Fox (Co-Chair)	Sheffield City Council
Gemma Smith (Co-Chair)	Private Sector LEP Board Member
Councillor Amy Brookes	Rotherham MBC
Councillor Tim Cheetham	Barnsley MBC
Councillor Glyn Jones	Doncaster MBC
Councillor Paul Wood	Sheffield City Council
Martin Swales	SYMCA Executive Team

In Attendance:

Colin Blackburn	Assistant Director - Housing, Infrastructure and Planning	SYMCA Executive Team
Carl Howard	Senior Programme Manager	SYMCA Executive Team
Sue Sykes	Assistant Director - Programme and Performance Unit	SYMCA Executive Team
Becky Guthrie	Senior Programme Manager	SYMCA Executive Team
Ryan Shepherd	Senior Programme Manager - Development & Planning	SYMCA Executive Team
Matt Bartle	Senior Programme Manager (Strategic Development)	SYMCA Executive Team
Andrew Shirt	Minute Taker	Joint Authority Governance Unit

Apologies:

Damian Allen	Doncaster MBC
Michael Faulks	Private Sector LEP Board Member

1 Welcome and Apologies

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Apologies for absence were noted as above.

2 Declarations of Interest by individual Members in relation to any item of business on the agenda

Members declared interests in respect of agenda item 6 regarding schemes in their own council areas.

3 Urgent items / Announcements

None.

4 **Public Questions on Key Decisions**

None.

5 **Minutes of Previous Meeting**

RESOLVED – That the minutes of the meeting held on 18 January 2022 be agreed as a true record.

6 **Programme Approvals**

C Howard presented a paper which requested approval to enter into contract for three BHF (Brownfield Housing Fund) projects, subject to the conditions set out in the assurance summaries.

The paper also requested the Board to recommend one BHF project to the MCA Board for full approval. Two Outline Business Cases were recommended to continue developing their projects for a future decision on funding. Finally, the paper recommended changes for one approved scheme.

Full details of all the projects, key risks identified and any specific conditions which were recommended to be met prior to contracting/grant drawdown were included within the papers and the Board considered each project separately.

G Smith referred to the 'Phase 4 Park Hill, Sheffield' project. She queried if the developers profit margin needed to be adjusted in light of current market conditions.

C Howard replied that the project had been assessed on a funding gap basis and therefore, to make this scheme viable, it included a level of developer profit. The proposed contract clauses include a break once further design and feasibility work is carried out, and it is at this point that better cost certainty will allow a further consideration of the viability gap. Here a final check can be carried out on the level of developer profit to check it is in line with existing market conditions.

Councillor Wood asked if checks are made on the country of origin of schemes' finances.

M Swales replied that, previously, this had not been part of the MCA's due diligence work. He agreed to discuss further with colleagues after today's meeting. **ACTION: M Swales**

G Smith highlighted that several projects contained a risk with regards to cost increases. She reported that, over the last 12 months, the building industry had seen an increase of 8% in build costs. Current forecasts had suggested that there could potentially be an additional 10% cost increase on top of the 8% increase over the course of the next 12 months.

In relation to future projects, G Smith asked if the Board could examine the level of contingency contained in applications.

M Swales replied that the MCA were witnessing cost increases for all infrastructure projects. In addition, MCA colleagues were currently considering submitting a policy paper to a future MCA Board to outline the impact this was having on all programmes.

RESOLVED – That the Board approve:

- i) Full approval of “Doncaster Small Sites” project for £0.89m Brownfield Housing Funding to DMBC (Doncaster Metropolitan Borough Council) subject to the conditions set out in the Assurance Summary attached at Appendix A.
- ii) Full approval of “Former Nightingale School” project for £1.57m Brownfield Housing Funding to DMBC (Doncaster Metropolitan Borough Council) subject to the conditions set out in the Assurance Summary attached at Appendix B.
- iii) Full approval of “Adwick Depot” project for £1.2m Brownfield Housing Funding to DMBC (Doncaster Metropolitan Borough Council) subject to the conditions set out in the Assurance Summary attached at Appendix C.
- iv) Progression of “Phase 4 Park Hill Sheffield” project to the MCA for full approval of £5.61m Brownfield Housing Funding to SCC (Sheffield City Council) subject to the conditions set out in the Assurance Summary attached at Appendix D.
- v) Progression of “Heart of the City 2 – Block A” project to the MCA for full approval of £3m Gainshare funding to SCC (Sheffield City Council) subject to the conditions set out in the Assurance Summary attached at Appendix E.
- vi) Progression of the Outline Business Case “Rotherham to Kilnhurst Flood Alleviation Scheme” project to the MCA for a decision to progress to FBC for £2m Gainshare Funding to RMBC (Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council) subject to the conditions set out in the Assurance Summary attached at Appendix F.
- vii) Progression of the Outline Business Case “Sheffield Future High Streets Fund” project to the MCA for a decision to progress to FBC for £3m Gainshare Funding to SCC subject to the conditions set out in the Assurance Summary attached at Appendix G.
- viii) Approval of one project change for “Attercliffe Development Costs” which is requesting changes to an approved Brownfield Housing Fund revenue project.
- ix) Delegated authority be given to the Head of Paid Service in consultation with the Section 73 and Monitoring Officer to enter into legal agreements for the schemes covered at number 1, 2, 3 and 8 above.

Connected By Water Flood Catchment Plan Launch and Implementation

A paper were presented which set out details of the Connected by Water Plan launch event and the next steps towards implementation of the Plan.

The Board was reminded that the Connected by Water Plan aimed to help identify and secure additional funding and investment to reduce flood risk to homes and businesses, as well as improving the resilience of places to climate change and potential future flooding.

Following approval by the MCA Board on 24 January 2022, the Connected by Water Plan was launched on 28 January 2022 with an online event hosted by Mayor Dan Jarvis.

The launch received widespread positive coverage by the media, and various social media posts were made by partner organisations as well as speakers and attendees. A media roundup was attached to the paper at Appendix A.

Following the launch, focus had now turned to implementing the Plan, continuing the collaborative approach adopted in developing the Plan.

The Board noted that proposed key next steps included:

- Establishing an officer steering group.
- Confirming the resources which the MCA and other organisations are committing to support implementation.
- Identifying the priority actions within the Plan to focus activity over the next 12 months.
- Continuing to identify and pursue additional funding opportunities.

The Board noted that public consultation on the Plan was also running until 11 March 2022, via the Environment Agency's website:

<https://consult.environmentagency.gov.uk/yorkshire/connected-by-water-south-yorkshire-action-plan/>

Members were reminded that the Board had approved the use of up to £0.15m of Gainshare contingency funding to support implementation of the Plan.

Discussions were taking place with Local Authority flood leads regarding proposals for the remaining £0.35m of contingency funding to not only support any overspend with 'shovel ready' flood schemes, but also related scheme activities set out in the Plan to support flood resilience and mitigation. Further details of how this funding was proposed to be used would be presented to a future meeting of the Board for consideration.

The Board welcomed the update and thanked R Shepherd for the work undertaken to date.

Councillor Fox asked if a paper could be presented at a future Board meeting detailing the successes of previously implemented flood prevention initiatives.

ACTION: R Shepherd.

RESOLVED – That the Board noted the Connected by Water Plan launch

event details with related media publicity and the proposed next steps for implementing the Plan.

8 **Forward Plan**

The Board considered its Forward Plan.

RESOLVED – That the Board noted the Forward Plan.

9 **Any Other Business**

C Blackburn reported that the MCA had received an extra £13.45m for the Brownfield Housing Fund, which was in addition to the already allocated £40m.

Currently, there were approved funding commitments of nearly £18m (including the projects recommended for approval at today’s meeting). The additional funding presented an additional challenge to develop sufficient schemes for approval and delivery before the end of March 2025 spend deadline.

The Board noted that the MCA Executive Team were currently working with the local authorities in terms of reviewing Phase 3 projects, which already contained an element of over-programming.

A funding profile would be developed for the remaining £35m.

A paper would be presented at the Board’s next meeting to allow Members to consider how to bring forward further innovative schemes and to consider if it would be appropriate to work with other partners to help contribute to the outputs of the Brownfield Housing Fund. **ACTION: C Blackburn**

Councillor Fox requested that there be a discussion at a future meeting in respect of the Levelling Up Agenda and consideration be given around a holistic view with regards to local services and infrastructure required to support new housing schemes. **ACTION: C Blackburn**

C Blackburn acknowledged the request.

In accordance with Combined Authority’s Constitution/Terms of Reference for the Board, Board decisions need to be ratified by the Head of Paid Services (or their nominee) in consultation with the Chair of the Board. Accordingly, the undersigned has consulted with the Chair and hereby ratifies the decisions set out in the above minutes.

Signed

Name

Position

Date

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Housing and Infrastructure Board

15 March 2022

Programme Approvals

Is the paper exempt from the press and public? No

Purpose of this report: Funding Decision

Is this a Key Decision? Yes

Has it been included on the Forward Plan? Yes

Director Approving Submission of the Report:
 Gareth Sutton, Chief Finance Officer/s73 Officer

Report Author(s):
 Carl Howard – Senior Programme Manager
 carl.howard@southyorkshire-ca.gov.uk

Executive Summary

This report requests that the Board recommend one Brownfield Housing Fund (BHF) project to the MCA Board for full approval. Two projects whose Strategic Business Cases (SBC) were approved during 2021 also request a decision from Board to release grant to assist with continued development of the projects.

What does this mean for businesses, people and places in South Yorkshire?

This report is seeking approval to progress business cases and enter into contract for investment proposals which will support the Mayoral Combined Authority's (MCA's) aspirations.

Recommendations

The Board consider and approve:

1. Progression of "Attercliffe Waterside" project to the MCA for full approval of £4.08m Brownfield Housing Funding to Sheffield City Council (SCC) subject to the conditions set out in the Assurance Summary attached at Appendix A; and,
2. Approval of £0.06m Gainshare Funding for development costs of the "Doncaster Natural Flood Management" project from Doncaster Metropolitan Borough Council (DMBC).

3. Approval of £0.06m Gainshare Funding for development costs of the “Doncaster Surface Water Mitigation” project from DMBC.
4. Delegated authority be given to the Head of Paid Service in consultation with the Section 73 and Monitoring Officer to enter into legal agreements for the schemes covered at numbers two and three above.

Consideration by any other Board, Committee, Assurance or Advisory Panel

Assurance Panel

28 February 2022

1. Background

- 1.1 In June 2020, the Government launched ‘A New Deal for Britain’ which is a key part of the support for the post-pandemic economic recovery across the UK. As part of this strategy, £40.30m of capital funding and £0.84m revenue funding was allocated to the MCA to support the development of housing schemes on brownfield land up to the end of March 2025. A further allocation of £13.45m is expected to be offered and is proposed for contingent acceptance at the Mayoral Combined Authority (MCA) in March 2022. This report seeks Full Business Case (FBC) progression for one BHF project which would take total approvals made to £17.6m.
- 1.2 Two Flood projects which are developing Gainshare applications have also requested £0.06m funding each to continue to develop their proposals. This report recommends approval of these requests.

2. Proposals and Justification

2.1 Full Business Case (FBC) Approval

Attercliffe Waterside Project Summary

Attercliffe Waterside sits within the Advanced Manufacturing Innovation District (AMID) between Sheffield City Centre and the M1 motorway. The vision for the site is to create a new neighbourhood of low-carbon new homes aimed at skilled young workers and families. The project aims to:

- Deliver 902 innovative, high quality, ultra-low carbon and energy efficient ‘eco homes’ within a high-quality environment with landscaped and communal areas using Modern Methods of Construction (MMC) with homes constructed off site.
- Refurbish character buildings on the canal side.
- Create or refurbish 40,000 square foot of employment floorspace.
- Create 26,200 square meters of new and improved public realm/open space together with 14,750 square metres of amenity space in the retention of existing wooded areas.

- 2.2 The project is requesting £4.08m grant funding which contributes towards the viability gap on the scheme. The grant requested has increased from £1.87m which was included within the OBC due to the widening funding gap. The grant will be used towards the site acquisition, foundation work and some refurbishment costs.

2.3 **Assessment**

The assessment considers that the project provides a good strategic fit with the objectives and outcomes of the Strategic Economic Plan (SEP). The project is judged to provide £2.38 of benefits for every £1 of MCA investment and on this basis is estimated to provide value for money. The timetable for delivery is considered reasonable with early land acquisition taking place in March 22 and design and planning permission planned for the Summer. Phase 1 works, which will deliver the first 448 homes, is due to commence in 2023 and completes in 2026. The project has identified potential risks such as worsening commercial viability, Covid 19 impacts, higher than expected abnormal costs and landowners not agreeing to sell the land. These have been appropriately mitigated. The assessment has identified that a more detailed development appraisal should be provided and this is therefore included as a condition of funding. Other conditions include finalising the development agreement between the Council and the developer and securing match funding to undertake the scheme.

2.4 **Recommendation**

The project is seeking a recommendation from Board which will be presented to the MCA for a final decision on funding. The Board are asked to recommend the scheme for approval. The assurance summary includes conditions which it is recommended should be met prior to grant drawdown. Further detail on the scheme is held in Appendix A.

2.5 **Application to Release Development Costs Funding for Two Gainshare Schemes**

Gainshare: Doncaster Natural Flood Management and Surface Water Mitigation Schemes

The Doncaster Natural Flood Management and Surface Water Mitigation Schemes form part of the South Yorkshire Flood Risk Priority Programme; projects identified as regional priorities following the November 2019 floods. Following approval of the Strategic Business Cases work is underway to develop the schemes to Business Justification Case stage requesting Gainshare funding.

A request to draw down development funding has been received, to support development of the schemes and progress the business cases. For each scheme, development funding is sought of up to £56k (14% of the £400,000 Gainshare funding allocated to each scheme). Development grant is requested on the schemes to support activities such as:

- Further development of both the Business Justification Case and the Grant in Aid Business Case.
- Further engagement with key stakeholders, including landowners.
- Further design of the scheme, including the proposed Natural Flood Management features.
- Consulting the Local Planning Authority to ascertain whether Natural Flood Management features will require planning consent.
- Modelling, investigation and scheme design.
- Seeking planning approval / relevant consents.
- The procurement process.

Outputs and timescales in relation to the above have been identified and are considered appropriate, including submission of Business Justification Cases for each scheme in September 2022. On this basis, it is recommended that the release of up to £56k of development funding is approved for the Doncaster Natural Flood Management Scheme and that the release of up to £56k of development funding is approved for the Doncaster Surface Water Mitigation Scheme.

3. Options Considered and Recommended Proposal

3.1 Do not approve the recommendations in this report.

3.2 Option 1 Risks and Mitigations

Inability to approve the projects presented may result in a slower pace of delivery and loss of activity/spend within the funding programmes.

3.3 Option 2

Award projects a smaller amount of grant funding.

3.4 Option 2 Risks and Mitigations

All funding awards associated with the projects have been fully appraised in line with the MCA Assurance Framework to ensure value for money. Any projects approved to develop FBCs will have their costs and funding tested on submission of their FBC. Funding for these projects is timebound by the funding bodies and any reductions is likely to cause deliverability issues for the projects.

3.5 Option 3

Approve all recommendations

3.6 Option 3 Risks and Mitigations

In approving the recommendations, projects will continue to develop and will be represented at a future Board meeting for a final decision on entering into contract for grant funding. Any Board considerations can be taken on board during the continued development of the projects.

3.7 Recommended Option

Option 3

4. Consultation on Proposal

4.1 Project sponsors are required to publish business cases on their own websites (or an appropriate summary of the submission) and must consider all comments received and reflect this in the next stages of the application process.

5. Timetable and Accountability for Implementing this Decision

5.1 Subject to the approval of the recommendations, the Head of Paid Service in consultation with the Section 73 Officer and Monitoring Officer will progress to enter into legal agreements with each promoter.

6. Financial and Procurement Implications and Advice

- 6.1 The proposed investments presented in this report are all fully-funded and within budget.
- 6.2 Challenging financial targets are set for the Brownfield Housing Fund. Approving the projects contained within this paper will move the Brownfield Housing Fund onto £17.6m approved commitments against a £20m expenditure target.

7. Legal Implications and Advice

- 7.1 The legal implications of the projects have been fully considered by a representative of the Monitoring Officer and included in the recommendations agreed within the Assurance Summaries as presented in the Appendices.
- 7.2 Prior to awarding the grants, the MCA shall ensure contracts are put in place to ensure the recipients comply with the grant conditions

8. Human Resources Implications and Advice

- 8.1 N/A

9. Equality and Diversity Implications and Advice

- 9.1 Appropriate equality and diversity considerations are taken into account as part of the assurance of the project business cases

10. Climate Change Implications and Advice

- 10.1 The projects include positive actions to help create a greener environment. The ultra low carbon and energy efficient 'eco homes' planned for the Attercliffe development are fully in line with the City Council's planning policy and will support the Council's aims of reaching zero carbon by 2040.

11. Information and Communication Technology Implications and Advice

- 11.1 N/A

12. Communications and Marketing Implications and Advice

- 12.1 The approvals provide positive opportunities to highlight the difference the MCA's investments will make to people and passengers, businesses and places across South Yorkshire and how Members are taking action to support the region's recovery from COVID

List of Appendices Included

- A Assurance Summary – Attercliffe Waterside

Background Papers

None

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1 – SCHEME DETAILS

Project Name	Attercliffe Waterside	Type of funding	Grant
Grant Recipient	Sheffield City Council	Total Scheme Cost	£205,225,986 (£137.7m at OBC)
MCA Executive Board	Housing and Infrastructure	MCA Funding	£4,080,000 (£1.87m at OBC)
Programme name	Brownfield Housing Fund	% MCA Allocation	2% (1.4% at OBC)
Current Gateway Stage	FBC	MCA Development costs	n/a
		% of total MCA allocation	n/a

2 – PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Attercliffe Waterside lies within the Advanced Manufacturing Innovation District between Sheffield City Centre and the M1 motorway. The vision for the site is to create a new neighbourhood of low-carbon new homes aimed at skilled young workers and families. This development builds on the success and momentum of the Sheffield Olympic Legacy Park, AMID and growth of investment and employment in the wider Lower Don Valley and changes perceptions to drive regeneration of Attercliffe and surrounding communities. Development of this large site will:

- Connect disparate land ownerships to bring forward a site of sufficient scale to drive regeneration and to create a 'neighbourhood' identity and sense of place.
- Deliver 902 (448 units in Phase 1) innovative, high quality, ultra-low carbon and energy efficient 'eco homes' within a high-quality environment with landscaped and communal areas using Modern Methods of Construction (MMC) with homes constructed off site.
- Refurbish character buildings on the canalside.
- Create or refurbish 40,000sqft of employment floorspace.
- Create 26,200sqm of new and improved public realm/open space together with 14,750sqm of amenity space in the retention of existing wooded areas.
- Improve pedestrian connectivity and permeability through what is currently a largely vacant site to and from Attercliffe high street and Supertram and the Darnall neighbourhood.

- Build on investment in SOLP, AMID and proposed investment through TFC and other regeneration investment in Attercliffe High Street.
- Provide massive support to the complementary £17m investment to be delivered through the Levelling Up Fund bid which has recently been approved for Attercliffe High Street.

Since the submission of the OBC, there has been a significant increase in the level of MCA funding requested, from £1,870,000 to £4,080,000 at FBC. Reasons for this are set out below:

The project will fund the acquisition by Sheffield City Council of the land required for Phase 1 of a proposed development scheme to unlock development of a wider scheme which will deliver the full range of benefits set out in the application. The land is to be acquired at its existing use value of £2.37m (including SDLT and fee), which is evidenced by an independent valuation report prepared by SMC – this report has now been provided as part of the FBC submission. This phase comprises a group of existing industrial buildings of ‘considerable character’ which are to be refurbished as part of the first phase of the scheme, but which have a value greater than the development value of the site. This has resulted in the scheme having stalled with the development scheme not coming forward due to market failure. The application argues that MCA funding is required to allow Sheffield City Council to intervene by acquiring the land and disposing of it to the Council’s development partner, Citu, at a price that is commercially viable. This will allow the private sector to acquire the site on commercially acceptable terms and develop out the site, contributing to place-making and raising residential values in a challenging location for residential viability and make the remaining phases commercially viable for the private sector to deliver. Sheffield City Council proposes to recycle the revenue from the disposal of the land to the private sector into the scheme to fund the delivery of upfront infrastructure works including the construction of a footbridge to aid place-making, link Phase 1 to Phase 2 and improve permeability through the site.

The above reasons were provided by the Applicant as part of their OBC submission, but there is additional justification provided for the additional funds requested at FBC stage. The Applicant states that approximately £950k is required for the cost of abnormal foundations and £760k is required to contribute to the cost of refurbishing ‘character buildings’ on the high street.

In addition to the above the Applicant has reduced the amount of money they will receive from the sale of the Phase 1 from £1.5m to a nominal value of £1 with viability issues cited as the reason for this.

In addition to the above, the residential density of the project has increased through the number of units and will now deliver 902 homes (448 in Phase 1), up from 750 (345 in Phase 1) at OBC.

3. STRATEGIC CASE

Options assessment

The FBC sets out four main options:

- Do minimum – no public funding is available and SCC does not intervene resulting in delay in the site being brought back into productive use.
- Viable alternative option 1 – MCA funding would be used to develop the site with the same number and layout of units as set out in the preferred option; however, none of the carbon reducing measures would be delivered.
- Viable alternative option 2 – part of the site is brought forward for lower value residential development with fewer dwellings delivered overall. Note, this is not considered to be a viable alternative by the assessors.
- Preferred option – for SCC to acquire the land for Phase 1 at the existing industrial use value and sell to the developer at a commercially attractive price to facilitate development of the proposed scheme.

	The assessors agree that the preferred option is articulated with sufficient clarity and with a strong rationale. Overall, the rationale for the selection of short-listed options appears to be adequate. The Applicant has demonstrated that the preferred option best delivers the desired outcomes for the project; however, viable alternative options could be more robust.	
<i>Statutory requirements and adverse consequences</i>	<p>The site is the subject of an Informal Planning Advisory Notice prepared by the LPA in 2019 which accepts potential uses as residential, shops, small-scale offices, R&D, Light industrial, residential institutions and hotels. The IPAN highlights the need for a bat survey, further archaeological survey work, a heritage statement addressing the listed structures on the site, a land contamination study, noise survey, further consultation with the Canal and River Trust with regard to mitigation to the canal infrastructure, along with a number of other requirements. It is assumed that these have been progressed.</p> <p>It is understood that there have been three positive pre-application meetings between the appointed development partner and the LPA and that a planning application will be submitted once the development agreement between SCC and the development partner is exchanged. It is understood that a hybrid application in outline for the whole site will be submitted with Phase 1 in detail in time for the anticipated start on site in Q2 2022.</p> <p>The FBC states that there are likely no adverse economic or social disbenefits in delivering the project but that there is potentially an issue with disruption to the existing businesses that occupy a small part of the site, affecting not more than 20 jobs at businesses in Phase 1 and a further 10 jobs on Phase 2. The applicant has said this adverse consequence will be mitigated through seeking to relocate the existing businesses to minimise disruption though it is recognised this cannot be fully guaranteed.</p>	
<i>FBC stage only – Confirmation of alignment with agreed MCA outcomes (Stronger, Greener, Fairer).</i>	The project aligns well with the objectives and desired outcomes of the SEP and RAP and contributes across all three Strategic Outcomes: Stronger, Greener, Fairer.	
4. VALUE FOR MONEY		
Monetised Benefits:		
VFM Indicator	Value	R/A/G
<i>Net Present Social Value (£)</i>	£10,673,741	G
<i>Benefit Cost Ratio / GVA per £1 of SYMCA Investment</i>	2.38	G
Value for Money Statement		
The economic dimension includes a series of monetised benefits to determine BCRs alongside non-monetised outcomes. The Applicant has undertaken BCR calculations for both Phase 1 independently and all phases. In calculating the BCR for the preferred option the following have been considered:		

1. An initial BCR – including direct Land Value Uplift (LVU), indirect spillover LVU, amenity benefits and carbon savings. This BCR has been calculated against the MCA BHF funding which we understand is the only public sector funds in the preferred scenario
2. An adjusted BCR – in addition to the initial BCR health benefits and societal fuel benefits have been added

The results of the BCR calculations for the preferred option is as follows:

1. **An initial BCR phase 1 only – 1.64**
2. **An adjusted BCR phase 1 only – 2.38**
3. An initial BCR all phases – 3.15
4. An adjusted BCR all phases – 4.63

All BCR calculations have included an optimism bias allowance of 15%, which is considered reasonable allowance.

Based on all scenarios, value for money is acceptable; however, BCR's for Phase 1 only are considered to best represent this project and the MCA's investment.

5. RISK

There are a series of risks identified in the FBC in section 6.6 with a full matrix included as part of A.3. The major risks identified include MCA funding not being approved, achieved sales values being lower in phases 2 and 3 than being anticipated challenging commercial viability, Covid 19 impacts, higher than expected abnormal costs, landowners not agreeing to sell the land, relocation of existing businesses leading to delays in start on site, supply chain difficulties resulting from Brexit, cost overruns, planning and governance delays. All risks have been scored identifying the highest risk in terms of likelihood and impact, risk owner and proposed mitigation and are considered reasonable. However, challenges to commercial viability and achieved sales values being lower, could have been mitigated further by providing a more in depth cashflow development appraisal and providing evidence of sales values.

The delivery of the scheme by the private sector is dependent on the continued commercial viability of the proposed scheme. All development funding beyond the initial MCA grant to unlock the land and contribute towards the high street and abnormal costs, is to be provided by the developer on a commercial basis with no further public sector funding anticipated. A contingency of 5% has been included in the appraisals which seems reasonable for a project of this scale with most surveys complete.

The Applicant has not provided a sufficiently in depth cashflowed development appraisal which could mean the viability gap has not been accurately calculated. In addition no evidence has been provided to support proposed sale values. Both these could be considered risks to the viability of the scheme.

There is some risk surrounding the current absence of a finalised development agreement which it is understood will be completed simultaneously with all parties once the FBC has been approved. It is understood that this risk is being mitigated through continuous communication between the parties and agreement in principle has been achieved.

There is also a risk to delivery arising out of the proposed intervention, which is its dependence on improved sales values and real costs matching cost assumptions in the existing appraisals to ensure the viability of the scheme. The assessors have had sight of a high level development appraisal that generally looks reasonable, but is not considered to provide sufficient cash flow detail.

6. DELIVERY

Overall, the timetable for delivery is considered reasonable, with adjustments made following time slippage between OBC and FBC stage. More information should be provided however on when phase 1 is likely to be complete and when the council can expect interim and final evaluations of their funding.

A developer, Citu, has been appointed following a marketing campaign and two-stage bidding process carried out by CBRE in 2019. The developer has agreed in principle to a draft development agreement and a tripartite agreement between existing landowners that covers how they will deal with the selected developer and distribute the proceeds from the phased land sale. Detailed comments on the development agreement from Citu are still outstanding.

The FBC confirms that financial due diligence was undertaken by CBRE when the contractor was procured. Citu the contractor will be responsible for the due diligence around any sub contractor.

The assessors have no concerns surrounding the procurement strategy, though it should be noted that there is some risk around the current absence of full acceptance by the preferred bidder of a finalised development agreement. It is understood that the landowner agreement will be completed simultaneously with the development agreement being entered into with Citu, but that this will be in advance of final sign off and contracting with the MCA for the funding agreement.

The FBC states a level of certainty of 95% which is the minimum level of certainty in relation to costs that is required at this stage. We have now been provided with a development appraisal by Citu which includes a breakdown of build costs, abnormal costs and professional fees, which look reasonable. The Applicant has confirmed through clarification questions that inflation has been included in the development appraisal and that they will be offset by the inclusion of increase in sale values. The Applicant states that any inflationary increases to costs will be absorbed by the developer.

The applicant states that there is no expectation that MCA will be responsible for cost overruns and it is understood that risk of cost overruns would be borne by the developer rather than SCC.

The FBC states that strategic and political responsibility for the development and delivery rests with Sheffield City Council's Interim Executive Director of Place who will be required to approve acceptance of the MCA funding, the purchase and subsequent sale of the site and the development agreement with Citu.

Operational delivery of the development is to be delegated to Sheffield's Head of Property and Regeneration, reporting to SCC's Housing Delivery Group. The Senior Responsible Officer for the project is named as Alan Seasman, Service Manager for City Regeneration and Major Projects.

The FBC states that public consultation will take place as part of the planning application process which will be in April 2022, but that the scheme is consistent with local planning policies which have been subject to public consultation.

Monitoring and evaluation is to be led by the SRO who will report to SCC's Housing Delivery Group and Capital Delivery Group and meet monthly with the private sector developer's Project Manager to monitor progress of the development, review and update the risk register and take necessary coercive actions to ensure the scheme will be delivered on time, on budget and to the required quality standards. The OBC states that Citu will be responsible for reporting social value results with social value outcomes monitored through the Council's Social Value Portal. The costs of M&E are to be met by Sheffield City Council.

7. LEGAL

The FBC states that SCCs legal advisors have considered the subsidy control issues in relation to the site. In short the SCC is receiving the funds to regenerate an underutilised site in Sheffield City Centre in a capacity where they are not acting commercially. The funds will be used to fill a viability gap and will not be used to make profit and best value has been achieved through consider BCRs.

8. RECOMMENDATION AND CONDITIONS

Recommendation	Full grant award subject to conditions
Payment Basis	Payment on defrayal
Conditions of Award (including clawback clauses)	

The following conditions must be satisfied before contract execution.

1. Applicant to provide finalised development agreement
2. Submission of acceptable Subsidy Control opinion (subject to MCA legal opinion)

The conditions above should be fully satisfied by 30/06/2022. Failure to do so could lead to the withdrawal of approval.

The following conditions must be satisfied before drawdown of funding.

3. Formal confirmation of all other funding approvals required to deliver the project.
4. Confirmation of procurement and evidence of cost certainty
5. All required statutory consents including all planning conditions must be satisfied.
6. Submission of evidence of Sheffield City Council's approval for the scheme.

The following conditions must be included in the contract

7. Provision of development appraisal and evidence of residential sale values
8. Clawback will be applied on outputs at MCA discretion



Housing and Infrastructure Board

15 March 2022

South Yorkshire Digital Infrastructure Strategy Delivery Plan

Is the paper exempt from the press and public?	No
<i>Reason why exempt:</i>	Not applicable
Purpose of this report:	Policy Decision
Is this a Key Decision?	Yes
Has it been included on the Forward Plan?	Yes

Director Approving Submission of the Report:

Martin Swales, Interim Director of Transport, Housing and Infrastructure

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Executive Summary

To consider and approve the final draft South Yorkshire Digital Infrastructure Strategy Delivery Plan.

What does this mean for businesses, people and places in South Yorkshire?

The implementation of the Strategy aims to help improve business productivity, competitiveness, digital exclusion, digital poverty and to make South Yorkshire more attractive to inward investors as a digitally enabled place to live and work.

Recommendation

The Board is asked to:

- Consider and approve the Delivery Plan to take forward implementation of the South Yorkshire Digital Infrastructure Strategy.

1. Background

- 1.1 The South Yorkshire Digital Infrastructure Strategy was approved by the Mayoral Combined Authority on the 20th September 2021 and it was requested that the Housing and Infrastructure Board prepare a Delivery Plan for implementation of the Strategy.
- 1.2 Taking into account feedback from members of both Boards, a final draft Delivery Plan is presented in Appendix A for the Board's consideration and approval.

2. Key Issues

2.1 Implementing the Strategy

The final draft Delivery Plan recognises the importance of a joined-up approach to deliver the SEP ambitions for the digital agenda, including digital infrastructure, skills, innovation and business support. It also acknowledges the vital role of partnership working across the public and private sectors in order to secure effective implementation of the Digital Infrastructure Strategy.

- 2.2 The Delivery Plan sets out realistic and deliverable actions and interventions to implement the Digital Infrastructure Strategy, including priorities that are strategically important and/or need to be delivered in the short-term (next two years), as well as actions which could be undertaken in the medium term.

- 2.3 To ensure successful implementation of the Strategy the necessary resources will need to be secured. The existing Superfast South Yorkshire executive team will transition to focus on delivery of the Strategy, and 'clawback' funding from the Superfast South Yorkshire programme that is being returned to SYMCA will provide a significant funding source over the next 5 years to support implementation. This includes implementation of the wider digital agenda, including activities related to the digital skills and digital innovation and business support agendas.

- 2.4 Funding to support the implementation of the Delivery Plan's actions, including supporting the existing executive team, is included within the MCA 2022/23 Business Plan and budget.

2.5 Project Gigabit Update

The Project Gigabit programme is a key programme to help fill 'gaps' in gigabit capable digital infrastructure coverage across South Yorkshire, as reflected in the Delivery Plan. In July 2021 Government announced that between £61m and £103m funding had been allocated to South Yorkshire through Project Gigabit, to provide gigabit capable digital infrastructure and connectivity which the 'Market' would otherwise not be providing over the next 5 years (estimated to be up to 56,800 premises).

- 2.6 An initial pre-procurement stage to undertake an Open Market Review (OMR), was launched in South Yorkshire on 4th February 2022. The OMR is used to consult the digital infrastructure telecom providers to understand their existing and future build plans, which provides the data to define the Intervention Area where Project Gigabit

funding can be targeted. This is therefore critically important and a necessary initial stage in developing the Project Gigabit programme in South Yorkshire.

- 2.7 This will provide significant support to improve Gigabit capable coverage and reduce digital poverty within South Yorkshire. Procurement of a provider (led by Department of Communities, Media and Sport and supported by the Superfast South Yorkshire executive team) is due to begin in November 2022, with roll-out expected from late 2023. Further progress updates will be provided at future meetings.

3. Options Considered and Recommended Proposal

3.1 Option 1

To support and approve the final draft Delivery Plan.

3.2 Option 1 Risks and Mitigations

- A key risk with this Option would occur if partners are unable to commit to implementing the Strategy. However, the existing Superfast South Yorkshire (SFSY) Board, which comprises representatives from the MCA and the four South Yorkshire authorities have helped develop both the Strategy and this Delivery Plan and are committed to their implementation.
- A further risk would occur if there was insufficient public and private investment to implement the Strategy in a timely manner to meet the delivery targets of the Strategy. Superfast South Yorkshire Clawback funding is providing a public funding source to support implementation of both the Strategy and the wider digital agenda, as well as a refocused SFSY executive team. The MCA Executive and local authorities continue to liaise with and support digital infrastructure providers in delivering their roll-out plans

3.3 Option 2

Not to approve the Delivery Plan.

3.4 Option 2 Risks and Mitigations

The key risk with this option is that it may delay the implementation of the Strategy and thus the ability to address the digital infrastructure challenges and SEP digital ambitions.

3.5 Recommended Option

Option 1

4. Consultation on Proposal

- 4.1 The Delivery Plan has been developed in liaison with SYMCA Executive leads for skills, innovation and business support, with the Superfast South Yorkshire Board acting as an Advisory Group at key stages, with the Housing and Infrastructure Board overseeing production and implementation of the Strategy and Delivery Plan.

5. Timetable and Accountability for Implementing this Decision

- 5.1 Following approval of the Delivery Plan work will commence to establish a detailed profile for implementation. Progress on implementation will be reported to future meetings of this Board.

6. Financial and Procurement Implications and Advice

- 6.1 Superfast South Yorkshire (SFSY) Clawback funding provides a capital resource for implementation of many of the actions set out in the final draft Delivery Plan, including funding for the existing SFSY executive team. The MCA determines how this funding is allocated with the initial 12 months funding requirements being included within the MCA's 2022/23 Business Plan and Budget.
- 6.2 However, not all the actions in the final draft Delivery Plan can be funded from capital funding, therefore some actions may require revenue from alternative sources. The MCA Executive and local partners will collectively explore options for funding these activities.

7. Legal Implications and Advice

- 7.1 There are no direct legal issues arising from this report.

8. Human Resources Implications and Advice

- 8.1 The existing Superfast South Yorkshire (SFSY) executive team will be refocused to support implementation of the Delivery Plan's actions, funded through SFSY clawback funding.

9. Equality and Diversity Implications and Advice

- 9.1 Ensuring digital inclusion for all is a key purpose of the Digital Infrastructure Strategy, aligning with the intentions of the Equality Act and Public Sector Equality Duty and the inclusivity policy approach of the Strategic Economic Plan.

10. Climate Change Implications and Advice

- 10.1 The Covid19 lockdown periods have shown the importance of good digital connectivity, particularly in relation to enabling people to effectively work from home and access both public health and other services online. Improved digital infrastructure / connectivity could be an important contributor to meeting net zero reduction targets related to transport.

11. Information and Communication Technology Implications and Advice

- 11.1 There are no IT issues as a direct result of this report.

12. Communications and Marketing Implications and Advice. Please also refer to consultation undertaken as per Section 4

- 12.1 There may be media opportunities related to the successful implementation of the various actions within the draft final Delivery Plan.

List of Appendices Included

- A Draft Final Digital Infrastructure Strategy Delivery Plan

Background Papers

None

South Yorkshire Digital Infrastructure Strategy Delivery Plan

FINAL DRAFT

18th February 2022

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DRAFT

1. Purpose of the Plan

The South Yorkshire Digital Infrastructure Strategy approved by the MCA in September 2021 sets out how we intend to accelerate the development of 'gigabit capable' digital infrastructure and 5G networks across the whole of South Yorkshire and includes proposals for public interventions to support achieving this strategic ambition.

It sets out a Vision to deliver:

'A Gigabit infrastructure that accelerates new social and economic possibilities for all the people and businesses of South Yorkshire'

It is underpinned by five key goals:



Ensure South Yorkshire's Superfast Broadband and 4G success is repeated for Gigabit Broadband and 5G.



Support the social and economic priorities set out in the SEP.



Form an inclusive platform that enables better outcomes for all sections of society.



Be supported by the Governance and data-driven approach needed to maximise the digital potential of South Yorkshire.



Position South Yorkshire as a leading centre of applied digital innovation and adoption.

South Yorkshire has huge potential in the digital sector. Connecting people and places is a core part of developing a stronger, greener and fairer economy, and better and more reliable internet access for businesses and residents is a vital part of this. However, as well as seeking to enable core gigabit capable infrastructure networks that catch-up with and even surpass our competitive regions, we seek to drive and support innovation within our local businesses to improve economic competitiveness, and align the upskilling of our local workforce

to support both job creation and our businesses to thrive and prosper.

The South Yorkshire Digital Infrastructure Strategy's (SYDIS) ambitions and targets build on the success of the existing Superfast South Yorkshire broadband programme which has achieved over 98% superfast broadband coverage and been delivered successfully through a partnership of South Yorkshire authorities and business.

The SYDIS was prepared with support from the MCA Housing & Infrastructure Board, the South Yorkshire Local Enterprise Partnership, and the Superfast South Yorkshire Programme Board.

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“

With focussed investment and strong governance, South Yorkshire is well positioned not only to have market leading digital infrastructure, but also to be leaders in translating this new connectivity into better social and economic outcomes for the region.

Working with public and private sector partners, the next step, which this Delivery Plan supports, is to drive implementation of the SYDIS.

Achieving the Vision and Goals set out in the SYDIS will help improve business productivity and competitiveness, address digital exclusion and digital poverty, and make South Yorkshire places more attractive to inward investors and as places to live and work.

Importantly, implementation will be taken forward as part of a holistic approach to the digital agenda; working in tandem to improve the digital skills of our residents and workforce and supporting business innovation and growth.

Supporting enhanced digitisation of our existing business and growing the digital economy are vital to driving local job creation. Our digital infrastructure needs to enable businesses to effectively and competitively develop / utilise the opportunities of Artificial Intelligence, Virtual Reality/Metaverse, health ER amongst other related technologies.

Alongside this, growing our digital skills will help more people access new employment opportunities, and support

the existing workforce to adapt to the dynamic and changing requirements of workplaces as digital technologies become more commonplace and prevalent.

This Delivery Plan:

- summarises the background to the SYDIS, including links to the Strategic Economic Plan (SEP);
- highlights the vision and supporting goals set out in the SYDIS;
- clarifies the governance arrangements and funding and resource implications for implementing the SYDIS;
- sets out the actions and interventions which will be taken forward to deliver the Vision and policies set out in the SYDIS, providing clarity on lead organisations, resource implications and timescales; and
- establishes how success will be measured through targets and indicators suggested in the SYDIS and set out in the SEP.

2. Background

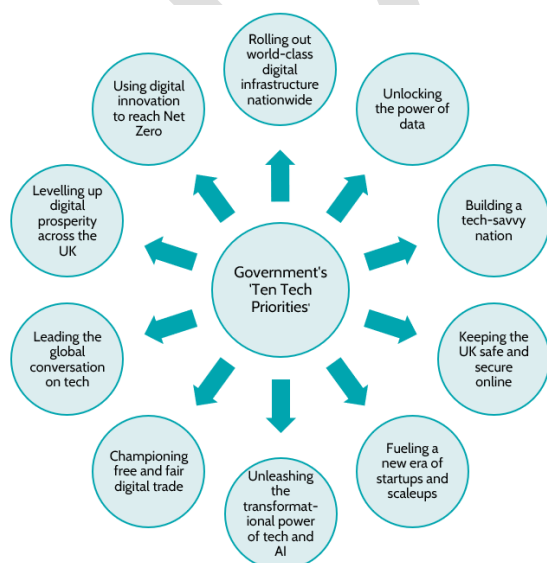
National Infrastructure Strategy (2020)

The government has set out its strategy to deliver high quality, reliable digital infrastructure that works across the UK, recognising the economic, social and well-being benefits that fast, reliable digital connectivity can deliver.

Around 20% of premises in the UK are expected to be uncommercial for the market to deliver gigabit-capable broadband. The £5 billion UK Gigabit Programme will subsidise roll-out to these areas, and in particular support rural areas which tend to have a higher proportion of uncommercial premises, due to remoteness, smaller clusters of premises, and resultant costs of infrastructure.

The Strategy also sets out how the Government will support mobile connectivity, particularly focusing on the delivery of high-quality 4G mobile coverage in rural areas and supporting demonstration projects showing how 5G technology has the ability transform the lives of consumers and businesses.

In March 2021, the Government unveiled its 'Ten Tech Priorities' that will underpin the UK Digital Strategy:



Superfast South Yorkshire

Established in 2014 to deliver faster broadband to areas where it had not been commercially viable to invest, Superfast South Yorkshire is a partnership of Barnsley, Doncaster, Rotherham and Sheffield Local Authorities.

In Phase 1 by September 2019, almost £27m of funding had been invested to reach an additional 95,000 premises. The second phase is currently in delivery and has brought gigabit capable broadband on the Openreach network to an additional 5,000 premises so far.

The success of this partnership has given South Yorkshire a strong foundation to build on.

SYMCA Strategic Economic Plan 2021 – 2041 (SEP)

The SEP sets out what needs to be done to grow the economy and transform the lives and wellbeing of people, focused on the communities of Barnsley, Doncaster, Rotherham, and Sheffield.

Digital technology and connectivity is recognised as a key driver of economic growth and quality of life, with digital infrastructure critical to realising our future ambitions.

The Covid19 lockdown periods have shown the importance of good digital connectivity, particularly in relation to enabling people to effectively work from home and access both public health, education and other services online. A positive consequence of this has been a reduction in travelling and resultant air quality and carbon emissions. Improved digital infrastructure / connectivity could therefore be an important contributor to meeting net zero reduction targets related to transport and mobility.

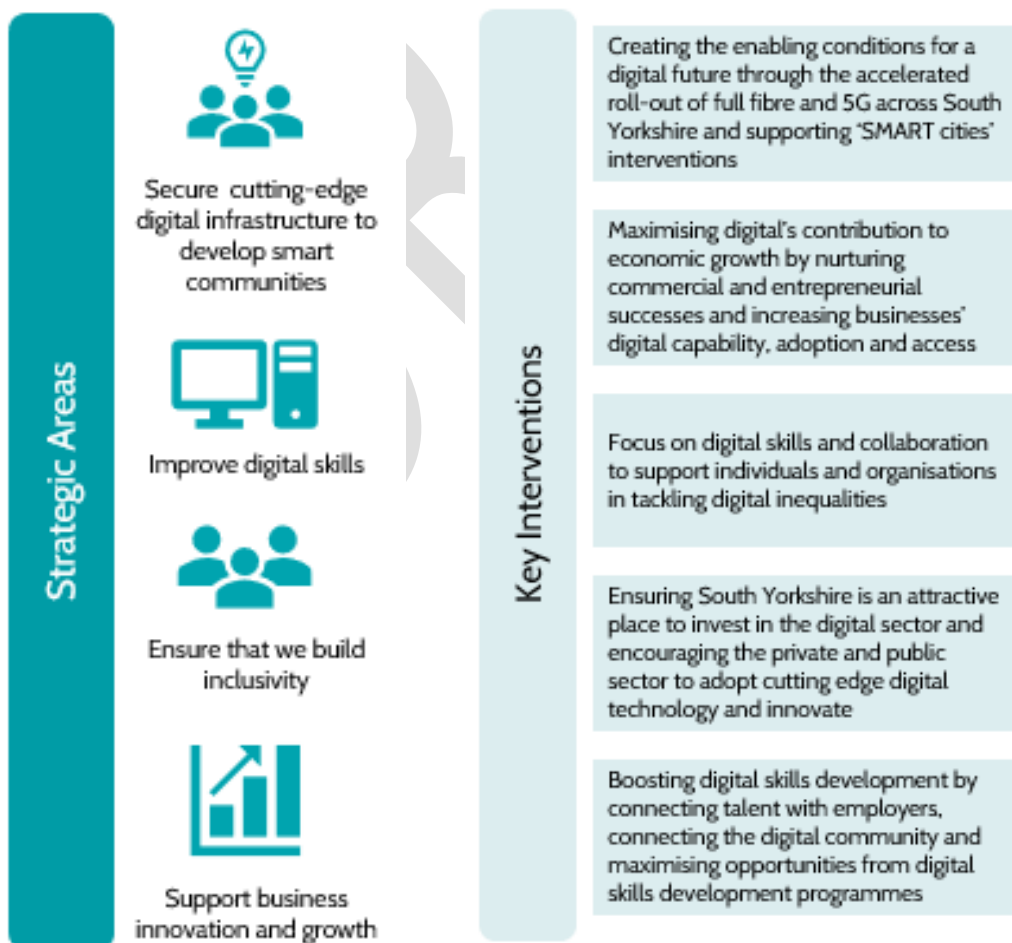
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“ The ambition for digital set out in the SEP is that:

‘Sheffield City Region [South Yorkshire] will be recognised as one of the best-connected city regions in the country where coverage, choice, and speed of communication stays ahead of demand and where there is an abundance of multi-skilled, digitally mature individuals to cater for every industry’s business needs. Enhanced digital connectivity and skills enable people to use digital applications and solutions to improve their lives and to sustain, grow, and create new businesses.’

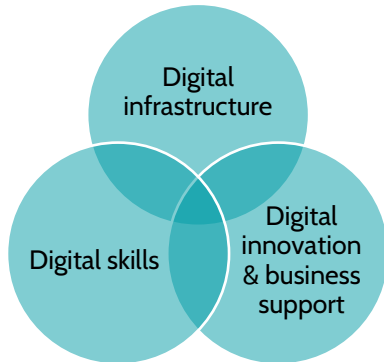
”
“ Significant economic gains are possible if we can deploy the best infrastructure for digital connectivity.


”
“ We will enhance SCR’s digital ecosystem by ensuring the supply of ‘hard’ infrastructure (full fibre and 5G) across the whole of the SCR [South Yorkshire], some areas of which still do not have 4G connectivity. This will likely require public interventions where market failure exists to accelerate and bring forward delivery.

To achieve this ambition, the SEP outlines the strategic areas of focus and key interventions.



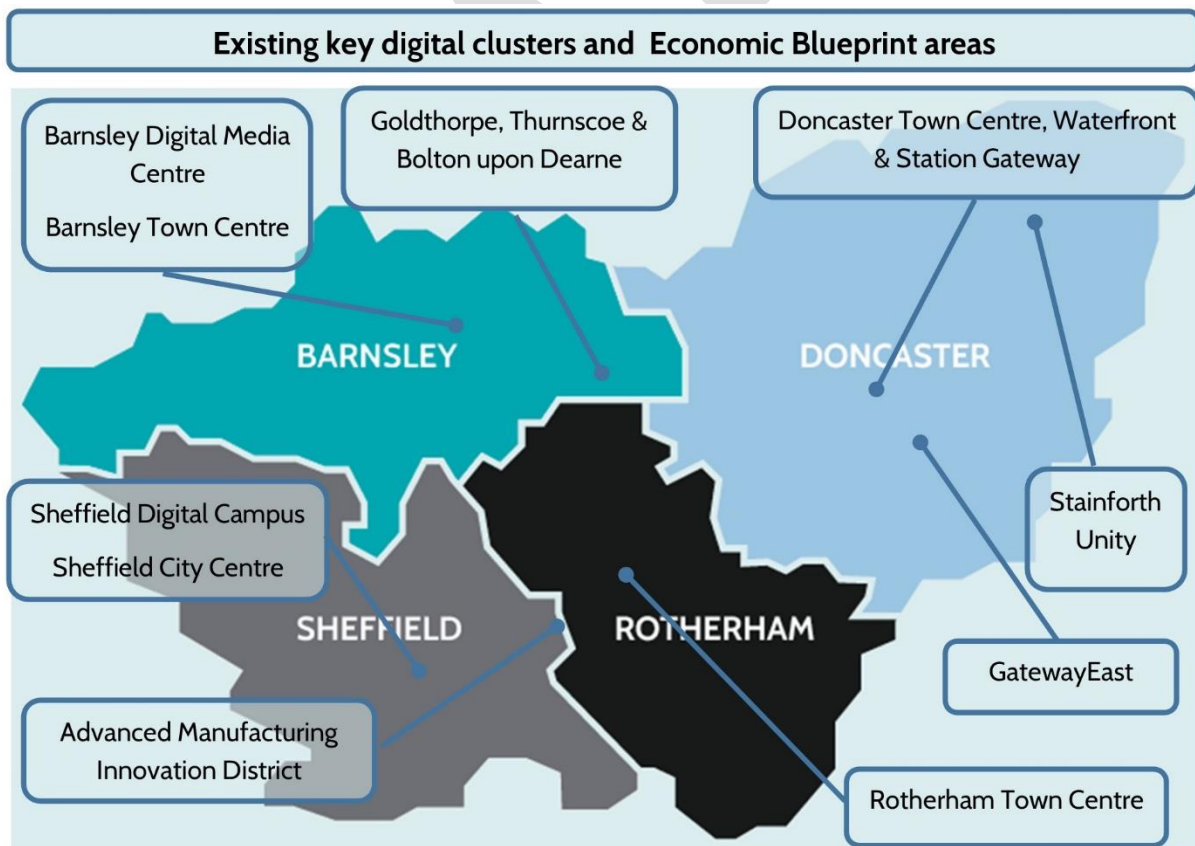
The SYDIS, and this related Delivery Plan, is part of, and covers, one of three key areas of activity critical to providing a strategic approach to addressing the digital agenda across South Yorkshire in an integrated way to deliver the SEP's digital ambitions. The other two elements being **digital skills** and **digital innovation and business support**.





Made Smarter
'Made Smarter', a national programme rolled out in South Yorkshire by SYMCA, offers funding, consultancy, training and support to empower manufacturers to adopt new digital tools and will provide digital upskilling and leadership development, as well as connecting technology developers and manufacturers.

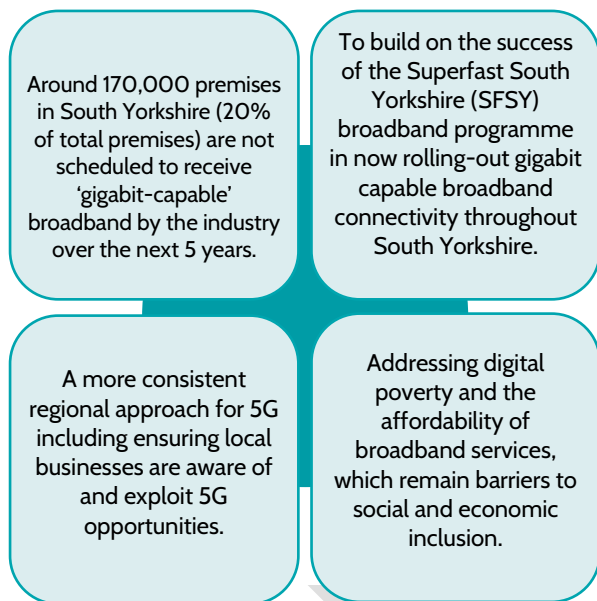
Taking a co-ordinated approach will help support existing digital clusters to grow and develop, and contribute to the investment targeted at the SEPs Key Growth Areas where Economic Blueprints are being developed.



South Yorkshire Digital Infrastructure Strategy

The SYDIS builds on the SEP by taking an evidence-based approach to identifying the digital infrastructure challenges faced by South Yorkshire, and developing a response recognising existing activity as well as future opportunities and intervention areas.


Key challenges that the SYDIS seeks to address include:



The SYDIS sets out a clear and simple vision for South Yorkshire, supported by five goals which guide and inform the actions, interventions and resources which are required to deliver the strategy.


- Tackling digital poverty and ensuring we have a digitally skilled workforce demands innovation and is an opportunity for South Yorkshire to set the national benchmark.
- 5G fills in the enterprise capability gaps left out by 4G, so whilst its Gigabit speed capability is being marketed to consumers, the real opportunity is the business market.
- There is interest across the region in the potential of the Internet of Things (IOT).
- The lack of local data centre capability will become a consideration as more companies close their own data centres in favour of 'Cloud' offerings and proximity to data centres becomes an increasingly important factor.
- 'Lighthouse' projects will play a key role to anchor and promote innovation.
- Delivery of the Digital Infrastructure Strategy will be a complex task.
- The speed of change in the digital sector requires an acceleration of decision making and intervention.

Vision



For South Yorkshire to have:
A Gigabit digital infrastructure that accelerates new social and economic possibilities for all the people and businesses of South Yorkshire

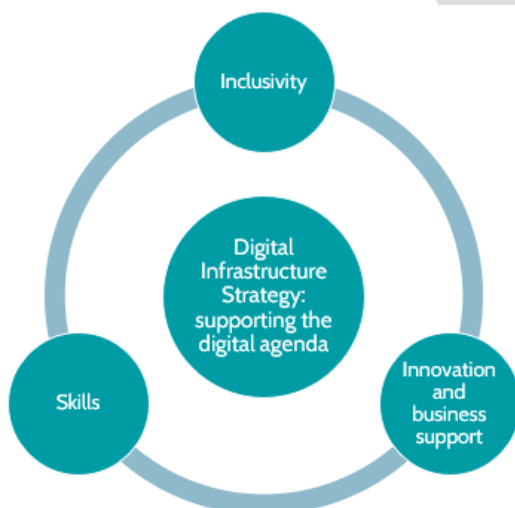
Goals



1. Ensure South Yorkshire's superfast broadband and 4G success is repeated for Gigabit broadband and 5G.
2. Support the social and economic priorities set out in the SEP.
3. Form an inclusive platform that enables better outcomes for all sections of society.
4. Be supported by the Governance and data-driven approach needed to maximise the digital potential of South Yorkshire.
5. Position South Yorkshire as a leading centre of *applied* digital innovation and adoption.

Taking forward this Delivery Plan in isolation will not deliver our ambitions for South Yorkshire; it is vital that a co-ordinated approach is taken which ensures that activity is tied into:

- the digital skills agenda, growing the digital skills of our residents and workforce;
- supporting business innovation and growth, enhanced digital infrastructure to secure the productivity improvements that the application of digital technology could bring; and
- working to support and enable digital inclusion to widen participation and build capability for all.



Fibre in Water

Yorkshire Water, with a consortium of partners, has bid for Government funding to pilot an innovative Fibre in Water scheme, delivering advanced broadband and mobile services via drinking water mains. If successful, this will improve digital connectivity at The Seam (Barnsley's digital campus), Dodworth Business Park and poorly served communities in Penistone.



South Yorkshire is well positioned to have confidence in the Market to deliver the gigabit broadband, and mobile coverage the region needs supported by our enabling interventions. We will leverage Government Gigabit investments to connect 'hard to reach' premises across our region and ensure nobody is left behind.



Digital poverty is a poorly understood national challenge that the MCA should seek to provide leadership in. With targeted investment and focussed governance, the MCA could become a digital leader with an adventurous programme firmly connected to better outcomes for the people and businesses of South Yorkshire.



5G provides opportunities for a differentiated approach that is supportive of the manufacturing and wider business community. A closure of the data centre gap and judicious rebranding of the digital sector with important clusters, for example, around the Sheffield ring road, The Seam - Barnsley's Digital Media Centre, and other areas will bring structure to the growth ambition for this important area of the economy.

3. Delivering the Plan

The actions and interventions to deliver on the SYDIS vision and goals are set out below, along with resource implications and timescales.

Significant activity is already underway to implement the SYDIS and further actions and interventions are identified, focused on those activities where market failure exists, and public interventions are required to deliver or stimulate the 'market' to deliver the Strategy.

As well as tangible projects and interventions, it is recognised that further research, data and development activity is required. As such, the outcomes of actions which improve our evidence base and understanding will inform the implementation of other existing actions and the development of future interventions.

Short term / priority actions are identified, where interventions are envisaged over the next 2 years (2021 - 2023). Beyond this, actions are identified where resources could be deployed in the medium term.

Whilst these actions set out how we will seek to deliver the SYDIS, the digital sector is fast-paced and therefore a certain amount of flexibility will be required to respond to changes and gaps in the market, and to future Government (Department of Culture, Media and Sport) interventions. As such it will be important to ensure the Delivery Plan is kept under review and updated on a regular basis.

Strong foundations

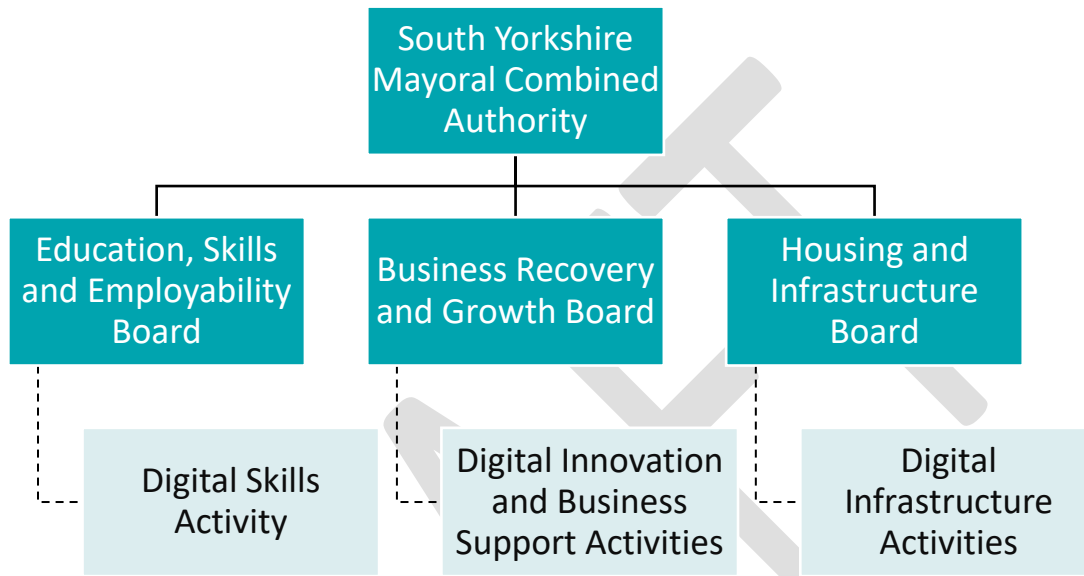
Whilst there are challenges in delivering on the Vision and Goals set out in the SYDIS, we are building on strong foundations:

- Superfast South Yorkshire has complemented commercial rollout and delivered an excellent foundation of 98%+ availability of 30Mbps+ superfast broadband.
- Fibre build by CityFibre is in progress and Openreach have committed to fibre upgrade more of its exchange areas by 2024. Virgin have upgraded their cable network to fibre speeds and operators new to the region are indicating a willingness to invest.
- Ofcom report near 99% availability of 4G and all four major operators are supporting 5G in Sheffield/South Yorkshire, which is on track for regional 5G coverage to be in line with other major conurbations.
- There are significant clusters of digital businesses in Sheffield and beyond, and the success of Barnsley's Digital Media Centre (DMC) points to the digital potential of the region. Innovation clusters such as the Advanced Manufacturing Innovation District (AMID) are well positioned to exploit the enterprise features that are key to 5G.

Governance

Implementing the SYDIS requires strong leadership and a collaborative approach, with partnership working between the MCA, Local Authorities, DCMS, digital infrastructure providers and service operators, and other funding and delivery partners.

It is also recognised that implementation needs to be progressed alongside and in dialogue with the digital skills and digital innovation and business support agendas, in order to deliver all the digital ambitions of the SEP.



Funding and resources

Taking forward this Delivery Plan will require resources, both to assist the market to deliver and also to support activities to secure and exploit additional funding opportunities.

Indicative cost levels are identified wherever possible against each action; however, further work will be required in some areas to identify and refine costs.

The identified actions and interventions are estimated to cost £1.88m, with around £1.12m of this required to deliver the short-term (next 2 years), priority interventions.

Delivering the South Yorkshire Digital Infrastructure Strategy

Estimated costs:

Short term actions (yrs 1&2)	£1.12m
Medium term actions (yrs 3-5)	£0.76m
Total	£1.88m



Project Gigabit

In July 2021 government announced that between £61m - £103m funding has been allocated to South Yorkshire to provide gigabit capable digital infrastructure and connectivity, currently estimated to be up to 56,800 premises which the 'Market' would otherwise not be providing over the next 5 years.

There are dedicated relevant digital skills within the MCA / Local Authorities partnership to support delivery, which will be retained. However, a number of actions will require specialist advice to complement partnership expertise.

Consideration is being given to the opportunities provided by the 'clawback' funding from the Superfast South Yorkshire broadband programme being returned to the MCA. This 'clawback' will provide a significant funding source over the next 5 years to support the implementation of the SYMCA digital agenda, including the SYDIS along with activities related to the digital skills and digital innovation and business support agendas.

The MCA will determine how the 'clawback' funding will be deployed, informed by the MCA Housing and Infrastructure Board, MCA Education, Skills and Employability Board and MCA Business Recovery and Growth Board in relation to the digital infrastructure, digital skills, and digital innovation and business support agendas respectively.

There is an estimation of the amount of clawback that will be available to the MCA to support these digital agendas, but actual amounts will need to be confirmed, as will the bi-annual payment

schedules. Importantly, clawback will be received as 'capital' funding and, therefore, alternative 'revenue' funding will need to be identified to support those priority delivery activities in this Plan that require revenue funding to implement.

The MCA will need to consider the capital and revenue funding proposals that the Housing and Infrastructure Board recommends to the MCA in due course to implement this Delivery Plan, as part of the MCAs budget setting processes. The decision will be for the MCA Board.

Actions and interventions

Overarching Key Priority Action / Intervention

The following are identified as key priority actions which underpin delivery of the SYDIS and support actions to implement Goals 1 to 5.

Action / Activity / Intervention	Delivery lead	Indicative costs *	Scheme status / expected or indicative completion date	Indicative outcomes
The SYMCA and Local Authorities to form successful and productive relationships with all key digital infrastructure providers to seek to ensure as much gigabit capable coverage as possible by 2025. Specifically, prioritising additional actions and interventions to address the c170,000 premises gigabit capable coverage gap (based on current projections - to be refined through further data analysis).	MCA/LAs	H	This will be ongoing and build on Local Authority partnership approaches. It will involve setting up a schedule of regular meetings with each provider, as well as day-to-day contacts as and when required. The existing BMBC SFSY partnership digital team will be repurposed to form the South Yorkshire Digital Infrastructure Strategy Team.	Successful partnership approaches in place. Supports maximising Gigabit capable coverage and reducing digital poverty
Develop an ongoing communications plan about the development and delivery of the South Yorkshire Digital Infrastructure Strategy and associated activities.	MCA	L	To be developed using existing team resources in liaison with the MCA Communications Team, and kept under review. May include commissioning some external support if required.	Improved visibility and profile of the digital agenda
* Indicative costs are provided: 0 = activity undertaken within existing team resources. Low = up to £60,000. Medium = between £60,000 and £150,000. High = over £150,000.				

The specific activities to address each of the five Goals are set out below, indicating in green whether those activities are for action in the short term (next 1-2 years) or the medium term (2-5 years).

Goal 1: Ensure South Yorkshire's Superfast Broadband and 4G success is repeated for Gigabit Broadband and 5G

How we will achieve this:

- We will encourage and where appropriate enable all the commercial operators to deliver their planned network upgrades and new build in the South Yorkshire.
- We will work closely with DCMS to maximise the investment of 'Project Gigabit' in rural broadband programme spend in South Yorkshire.
- **4G:** We will work with mobile infrastructure providers to promote good mobile coverage across our rural communities.
- **5G:** We will work with the region's businesses and Leaders in the adoption of 5G to drive sustainable advantage and competitiveness.
- We will open up our public sector assets based on a robust due diligence process and make it easier for operators to build their networks with our consistent 'Barrier Busting' policies.

Action / Activity / Intervention	Priority / Short Term	Medium Term	Delivery lead	Indicative costs *	Scheme status / expected or indicative completion date	Indicative outcomes
Provide complementary interventions where appropriate to incentivise or encourage industry to accelerate delivery of gigabit-capable broadband	Y		LA's	To be determined	This will be an ongoing task responding to challenges and opportunities as they arise. Initial projects will be identified and developed over the next 12 months. Costs will therefore be unknown until further analysis undertaken and opportunities identified. Part of the Lighthouse Projects' action under Goal 5	Successful partnership approaches in place. Supports maximising Gigabit capable coverage
Map the digital infrastructure industry providers, including smaller providers, and develop a holistic and continuous engagement programme.	Y		MCA	0	This action links to the two 'Overarching Key Priority Action / Interventions' and will be undertaken within existing team resources	Successful partnership approaches in place.
Enhance ongoing dialogue / relationships with both major and	Y		MCA/LA's	0	This action links to the two 'Overarching Key Priority	Successful partnership approaches in place.

Action / Activity / Intervention	Priority / Short Term	Medium Term	Delivery lead	Indicative costs *	Scheme status / expected or indicative completion date	Indicative outcomes
smaller local digital infrastructure suppliers, and identify and oversee consistent 'barrier busting' measures being put in place to support the industry infrastructure roll-out					Action / Interventions' and will be undertaken within existing team resources This action links to the two 'Overarching Key Priority Action / Interventions'	Supports maximising Gigabit coverage, and mobile coverage
Identify support requirements and secure the necessary officer resources to support the DCMS Project Gigabit (£61m - £103m) Programme in South Yorkshire.	Y		MCA	O	Further clarification required on extent of support required from MCA/LAs over the procurement stage (next 12 months) and the delivery phases thereafter (2023 onwards). Existing digital team to continue to provide advice and support to DCMS on the procurement phase. Medium-term resource position is therefore to be confirmed.	Supports maximising Gigabit capable coverage and reducing digital poverty
Map public assets: 1. Mapping of premises not scheduled for gigabit connectivity by 2025 to identify potential 'anchors' and utilise enabling public assets to support industry gigabit connectivity roll-outs. 2. Mapping of buildings and street furniture, to support further 4G and 5G coverage.	Y		MCA	L	Work is already underway, and further analysis will be required of assets data compiled in preparing the Strategy. Will be undertaken using existing team resources, with potentially commissioning some specific external support	Supports maximising Gigabit capable coverage broadband and mobile coverage, and reducing digital poverty Provides up to date evidence to inform future actions

Action / Activity / Intervention	Priority / Short Term	Medium Term	Delivery lead	Indicative costs *	Scheme status / expected or indicative completion date	Indicative outcomes
Close and monitor the SFSY Programme contracts.	Y		BMBC/MCA	O	Existing digital team resources will undertake this role. Superfast Phase 3 contract - forecast completion June 22 with a 6-9 months closedown process.	Supports maximising Gigabit capable coverage and reducing digital poverty
Consider a 'drive by' rural mobile survey across South Yorkshire to map the true state of rural mobile coverage, identify gaps, and seek industry resolutions.		Y	MCA	L	To be considered including the potential options for undertaking the survey accurately and comprehensively.	Supports maximising mobile coverage, and reducing digital poverty Provides up to date evidence to inform future actions
Undertake periodic 'Market' engagements to track progress by the industry in rolling-out and upgrading mobile coverage.		Y	MCA/LAs	O	This will be undertaken using existing team resources, including analysis on coverage roll-out data sources noted under Goal 4.	Supports maximising mobile coverage, and reducing digital poverty
Work with Mobile Network Operators and Local Authorities to facilitate the appropriate location of new infrastructure, encouraging the sharing of infrastructure wherever possible, and educating decision makers and the public.		Y	MCA/LAs	O	This action links to the two 'Overarching Key Priority Action / Interventions' and will be undertaken using existing team resources.	Supports maximising mobile coverage, and reducing digital poverty Provides up to date evidence to inform future actions
Explore potential to establish a "GigaHub" project approach.		Y	MCA/LAs	M	Would require commissioning specialist	Supports maximising Gigabit capable coverage

Action / Activity / Intervention	Priority / Short Term	Medium Term	Delivery lead	Indicative costs *	Scheme status / expected or indicative completion date	Indicative outcomes
					external expertise to investigate and develop proposals.	and reducing digital poverty
* Indicative costs are provided: 0 = activity undertaken within existing team resources. Low = up to £60,000. Medium = between £60,000 and £150,000. High = over £150,000.						

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Goal 2: Support the social and economic priorities set out in the SEP

How we will achieve this:

- As a foundation layer we will work with digital infrastructure providers to achieve ubiquitous Gigabit Broadband and 4G coverage across South Yorkshire and 5G where it is needed.
- We will seek to close the datacentre gap, reinforcing the success of the Region as a place to do digital business and 'future proofing' the region to cater for the anticipated growth in businesses utilising cloud infrastructure.
- We will seek to leverage 5G's unique enterprise capabilities (low delay, reliability, security, support for scale sensing networks) to the advantage of South Yorkshire's significant manufacturing sector.
- We will engage with South Yorkshire's major private sector organisations to leverage their digital know-how and seek mutually beneficial public-private sector outcomes.
- We will augment the growing narrative around the region's digital sector, business start-ups, innovation, and creation of 'lighthouse' innovation projects.

Action / Activity / Intervention	Priority / Short Term	Medium Term	Delivery lead	Indicative costs *	Scheme status / expected or indicative completion date	Indicative outcomes
Design and develop a demand stimulation programme for existing SME businesses and new start-ups aligned with and supporting gigabit connectivity roll-outs. Includes exploring funding a "top up" of the Gigabit broadband voucher system to further incentivise rural deployment.	Y		MCA	H	Would require significant resources to support roll-out of a programme. Consideration needs to be given to potential opportunities to link in with related Project Gigabit activities.	Successful partnership approaches in place. Supports maximising Gigabit capable coverage Supports improvements to productivity and competitiveness of businesses
Continue to provide advice on connectivity for residents and businesses across South Yorkshire, including <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rural areas • Business connectivity issues 	Y		MCA/LAs	O	To be undertaken using existing team resources.	Supports maximising Gigabit capable coverage, and mobile coverage

Action / Activity / Intervention	Priority / Short Term	Medium Term	Delivery lead	Indicative costs *	Scheme status / expected or indicative completion date	Indicative outcomes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community / Third sector connectivity issues Multiple Dwelling Units 						
Establish a Digital Forum comprising representatives from the public sector, local businesses and digital infrastructure providers	Y		MCA	L	This will be taken forward as part of the wider MCA digital agenda and cover digital infrastructure, digital skills, and digital innovation and business support activities. Some project funding may be required to support the Digital Forum activities	<p>Will support implementation of actions within the DIS, as well as help develop potential future actions</p> <p>Supports establishing South Yorkshire as a centre of digital excellence</p>
Commission activity to develop a South Yorkshire Digital Branding Strategy for the digital industry sector.		Y	MCA	L	Initial task is to scope this proposition in liaison with MCA Communications Team and LAs.	<p>Improved visibility and profile of the digital agenda</p> <p>Supports establishing South Yorkshire as a centre of digital excellence</p>
Commission research with the AMRC on future 5G business needs in South Yorkshire and explore the opportunities for accelerating 5G adoption by the manufacturing sector, including the potential business case, technical and resourcing requirements for the '5G in a box' innovation model.		Y	MCA/AMRC	M	Initial task would require commissioning external digital expertise to engage with local industries and develop viable propositions for further consideration, and to develop the	Supports use of 5G technology to improve productivity and competitiveness of businesses

Action / Activity / Intervention	Priority / Short Term	Medium Term	Delivery lead	Indicative costs *	Scheme status / expected or indicative completion date	Indicative outcomes
					detailed proposals and business case.	
Commission research to identify the extent of existing and future datacentre capability, and test viability, market appetite and business needs for future additional edge datacentre infrastructure.		Y	MCA	M	This would require commissioning external specialist expertise.	Provide up to date data and evidence to inform future actions
* Indicative costs are provided: 0 = activity undertaken within existing team resources. Low = up to £60,000. Medium = between £60,000 and £150,000. High = over £150,000.						

Goal 3: Form an inclusive platform that enables better outcomes for all sections of society.

How we will achieve this:

- We will address the data gap to better understand the specific digital poverty challenges in South Yorkshire.
- We will drive and leverage social value upside from our digital activities and as a bi-product of our support for operators building their new networks.
- We will explore new models for social connectivity, exploring new service delivery options (digital health and government services) and seeking to quantify the better outcomes that digital connectivity can deliver.
- We will explore digital infrastructure opportunities to support the growth of digital health and welfare, linking back to other regional initiatives.
- We will consider how our site assets can better serve our communities to either anchor operator builds into less commercially attractive areas or to provide digital centres/hubs in their own right, offering connectivity and help.

Action / Activity / Intervention	Priority / Short Term	Medium Term	Delivery lead	Indicative costs *	Scheme status / expected or indicative completion date	Indicative outcomes
Commission research to fill the information gap relating to the real extent of digital poverty in South Yorkshire, and the actions to address this.	Y		MCA/Uni's	L	Discussions are ongoing with the region's Universities to undertake this research for South Yorkshire	Up to date evidence regarding digital poverty which will inform future actions / interventions
Engage Local Authorities, Housing Associations and the Advanced Wellbeing Research Centre (AMRC) to maximise digital inclusivity within lower income tenants and explore the opportunity for 'Social Connectivity' pilots.		Y	MCA/LAs	M	Initial task would be to scope the brief for this project in liaison with LAs, Housing Associations and the AMRC to confirm the precise needs and opportunities for the project. Future actions will depend upon the outcome of any pilot projects, but could	Reduce digital poverty, increase the ability of residents to access digital technology, and improve skills and employability

Action / Activity / Intervention	Priority / Short Term	Medium Term	Delivery lead	Indicative costs *	Scheme status / expected or indicative completion date	Indicative outcomes
					include supporting the roll-out and expansion of successful projects in collaboration with commercial providers	
Commission joint work with health and care providers to explore digital infrastructure opportunities and requirements to support the growth of digital health and welfare.		Y	MCA / Health Bodies	M	Initial discussions required with health care providers across South Yorkshire to explore the opportunities and challenges of this project.	To reduce digital poverty and to harness the benefits of digital infrastructure to deliver improved social outcomes
* Indicative costs are provided: O = activity undertaken within existing team resources. Low = up to £60,000. Medium = between £60,000 and up to (and including) £150,000. High = over £150,000.						

Goal 4: Governance and data-driven approach to maximise the digital potential of South Yorkshire

How we will achieve this:

- We will build on the success of the Superfast South Yorkshire programme, creating the necessary governance structure to ensure that our infrastructure agenda is effectively coordinated and compliments the delivery of the wider SEP digital agenda and ambitions.
- We will create a centre of digital excellence for the region, allowing South Yorkshire to respond in a co-ordinated way to Government initiatives and to engage consistently with operators and other private sector stakeholders.
- We will make use of wider public and private sector specific digital and technology skills to advise and add depth and challenge to our digital infrastructure programme.
- We will make it easy for operators to build their networks with consistent 'Barrier Busting' policies adopted across the region, drawing on best practice from Local Authorities both within and beyond South Yorkshire.

Action / Activity / Intervention	Priority / Short Term	Medium Term	Delivery lead	Indicative costs *	Scheme status / expected or indicative completion date	Indicative outcomes
Commission and utilise consistent data sources to inform policy, delivery, and funding bids and programmes'	Y		MCA	L	Annual licence for Point Topic data obtained by the MCA and provides quarterly updates of coverage. Analysis will be undertaken using existing team resources, but ongoing dialogue with industry providers will be needed to confirm progress and check actuals.	Up to date data and evidence to inform monitoring, decision making and future actions / interventions
Adopt consistent 'best practice' planning policies and 'barrier busting' approaches/measures across South Yorkshire to support and accelerate industry roll-outs.	Y		LAs	0	This will be undertaken using existing team resources and local authority officer support. This is ongoing in partnership with the local authorities, building on	Successful partnership approaches in place. Supports maximising Gigabit capable coverage, and mobile coverage

Action / Activity / Intervention	Priority / Short Term	Medium Term	Delivery lead	Indicative costs *	Scheme status / expected or indicative completion date	Indicative outcomes
					the positive actions already in place by authorities.	
Continue to provide consistent expert strategic advice and support to Local Planning Authorities and developers on digital infrastructure requirements within new developments as well as mobile telecommunications requirements and discharge of planning conditions.	y		BMBC/MCA	L	<p>Since 2019 nearly 15,000 new-build properties have benefitted from a process to place planning conditions on major new residential and commercial developments for gigabit-capable, full fibre broadband infrastructure and connections.</p> <p>This will be undertaken using existing team resources with potentially a need to commission some specific external expertise.</p>	Supports maximising Gigabit capable coverage, and mobile coverage
* Indicative costs are provided: 0 = activity undertaken within existing team resources. Low = up to £60,000. Medium = between £60,000 and up to (and including) £150,000. High = over £150,000.						

Goal 5: Position South Yorkshire as a leading centre of applied digital innovation

How we will achieve this:

- We will seek to integrate and ensure that our digital infrastructure activities contribute to supporting the development of the SEP innovation clusters such as by creating 'lighthouse' projects reflective of our growing digital capability.
- We will seek to secure Government innovation funding awards by pre-preparing bids related to the SEP and our Digital Infrastructure Strategy.
- We will work with public and private sector partners to promote the development of Internet of Things network(s) across South Yorkshire to support public and private sector 'sensing' network ambitions and as a platform for innovation in our growing digital sector.

Action / Activity / Intervention	Priority / Short Term	Medium Term	Delivery lead	Indicative costs *	Scheme status / expected or indicative completion date	Indicative outcomes
Proactively work with the Department of Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS) on future digital initiatives to capture funding and delivery opportunities for South Yorkshire, including demonstration pilots.'	Y		MCA	M	Ongoing. This action links to the two 'Overarching Key Priority Action / Interventions.' Will be undertaken using existing team resources, but a project budget will be required to support development of individual funding bids.	To secure additional funding and delivery opportunities Successful partnership approaches in place. Supports maximising Gigabit capable coverage, and mobile coverage
Identify 'Lighthouse projects' which can help deliver new local job opportunities and encourage and support new innovations / projects such as Yorkshire Water's proposals to deploy fibre in water to access poorly served communities.	Y		MCA/LAs	L	This action links to the two 'Overarching Key Priority Action / Interventions'. Initial exploratory work required to identify new project opportunities and work with partners to develop the scheme business cases. The Fibre in	Support an increase in the number of people working in digital related occupations. Support delivery of innovative projects which may improve knowledge, reduce
		Y		M		

Action / Activity / Intervention	Priority / Short Term	Medium Term	Delivery lead	Indicative costs *	Scheme status / expected or indicative completion date	Indicative outcomes
					water bid from Yorkshire Water / Arcadis is progressing with DCMS. Will be undertaken using existing resources although a project budget will be required to support development of projects.	digital poverty, and inform future actions / interventions.
Explore the opportunities for rolling-out of the pilot digital flood warning system to the whole of the South Yorkshire flood catchment.	Y		DMBC/LAs	L	This action links to a priority action in the draft South Yorkshire Flood Catchment Plan	Provide a real-time digitised flood warning system to improve the targeting of actions and resources in response to flood events across South Yorkshire
Capture relevant recommendations for Gigabit and 5G infrastructure in Economic Blueprints prepared for key growth areas identified in the SEP: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sheffield City Centre • Advanced Manufacturing Innovation District, • Barnsley Town Centre • Rotherham Town Centre • Doncaster Town Centre, Waterfront & Station Gateway • Stainforth Unity (Doncaster) • Goldthorpe, Thurnscoe & Bolton upon DearneGatewayEast (Doncaster Sheffield Airport) 	Y		MCA/LAs	0	This action can be taken forward immediately using existing resources. The MCA Executive is already working with Local Authorities and other partners to agree the Economic Blueprints and develop investment packages to support their delivery. GatewayEast Economic Blueprint has been finalised; however, the opportunity to review and include relevant	Successful partnership approaches in place. Ensure appropriate cross references and linkages across strategies to provide a comprehensive approach to delivering the Digital Infrastructure Strategy.

Action / Activity / Intervention	Priority / Short Term	Medium Term	Delivery lead	Indicative costs *	Scheme status / expected or indicative completion date	Indicative outcomes
					recommendations around Gigabit and 5G infrastructure will be considered.	
Work with public sector partners and utilities to identify and develop business cases, where applicable, to develop Internet of Things / Smart Cities pilot systems.		Y	MCA	M	Initial exploratory work required to identify and map out relevant needs and opportunities	Successful partnership approaches in place. Supports use of digital technology to improve productivity and competitiveness of businesses
* Indicative costs are provided: 0 = activity undertaken within existing team resources. Low = up to £60,000. Medium = between £60,000 and up to (and including) £150,000. High = over £150,000.						

4. Measuring success

A number of the interventions set out in this Delivery Plan are already underway, whilst others are identified as short-term priorities (1-2 years), and further actions will be taken in the medium term (3-5 years).

With the funding sources to implement the Plan not yet confirmed, activities and costs need to be considered in tandem with the MCAs budget setting process, in order to prioritise and align activities with the emerging understanding of the likely funding available in future years.

Some interventions, such as those which improve our data, evidence and understanding, will inform the development of future actions.

Recognising this and the range of activities needed to deliver the SYDIS, it will take time to implement and the full impact may not be felt immediately.

The SYDIS includes a number of targets for each Goal to measure the success of implementing the Strategy. These are set out below.

These targets reflect the fact that the SYDIS seeks to deliver a package of outcomes that are relatively straightforward to measure (for example Gigabit capable broadband availability) and others that are not (such as tackling digital poverty, where there is a national paucity of local evidence about digital exclusion).

As our data, knowledge and understanding improves, this will enable the intervention strategy to be refined over time, and new targets to be set, if appropriate.

In addition, the SEP outlines a number of indicators and targets to help measure progress against the outcomes on a regular basis¹. Implementation of the SYDIS will most directly contribute to the digital connectivity indicator below but will also indirectly contribute to a number of other indicators and outcomes.

Monitoring implementation of the SYDIS is critical in order to understand:

-  progress with undertaking actions and interventions
-  any actions or priorities arising from new evidence or the outcome of interventions
-  barriers and constraints to delivery and how these can be overcome

¹ The SEP outcomes and metrics are 'live' and will be reviewed over time.

Goal	Targets
Ensure South Yorkshire's Superfast Broadband and 4G success is repeated for Gigabit Broadband and 5G	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 95% availability of Gigabit Broadband by 2025 • 95% mobile coverage, closing rural gaps
Support the social and economic priorities set out in the SEP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Data centre parity with other equivalent urban centres in place by 2025 • Establish a South Yorkshire Digital Forum to support and advise on implementation of the Strategy
Form an inclusive platform that enables better outcomes for all sections of society	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A local solution in place for tracking levels of digital poverty and impact of interventions across South Yorkshire • To develop and implement social value pilot projects
Be supported by the Governance and data-driven approach needed to maximise the digital potential of South Yorkshire	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify appropriate resources to implement the Digital Infrastructure Strategy • Put in place comprehensive digital data provision and monitoring by the end of 2022
Position South Yorkshire as a leading centre of applied digital innovation and adoption.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish South Yorkshire as a centre of digital excellence to pilot new digital infrastructure innovations and models • Roll out 5G pilots with South Yorkshire businesses by 2025 • Promote a South Yorkshire Internet of Things network

SEP indicator	Outcome	Data	2041 target
Digital connectivity	A higher proportion of our region is covered by both full fibre and 5G broadband	Percentage of full fibre coverage of residential and business premises. Weekly network rollouts modelled by Think Broadband based on Openreach data. 8.4% (2020)	Equal to UK level

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Item 8

Housing and Infrastructure Board Forward Plan

15 March 2022

Meeting Date	Suggested Agenda items
May/June 2022 (date to be confirmed)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Brownfield Housing Fund – Strategic Business Cases and Outline Business Cases • Gainshare Major Capital Schemes – Strategic Business Cases and Outline Business Cases • Programme Performance Report • Electric Vehicle Chargepoint Programme Delivery Update • Modern Methods of Construction Ecosystem • South Yorkshire One Public Estate Programme Update • Infrastructure and Housing Project Pipelines

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