

Local Enterprise Partnership

12 May 2022

Chief Executives Update

Purpose of Report

To provide LEP Board Members with a general update on activity being undertaken by the LEP outside of the agenda items under discussion.

1. Destination Marketing

A Yorkshire officers group has been set up to take forward work on destination marketing operations for Yorkshire, following Welcome to Yorkshire going into administration. Private sector LEP Board members Joe Chetcuti, Neil MacDonald and Dan Fell have been involved, and the group will shortly be coming to the LEP and wider business community to help further shape the work.

2. Shared Prosperity Fund

The government has released UK Shared Prosperity Fund allocations – the replacement to EU funding. SYMCA has been allocated £46,162,439 comprising of Core UKSPF funding of £38,906,130 and £7,256,309 from Multiply - a programme to offer free courses to adults to improve numeracy. UKSPF allocations the prospectus can be found on the GOV.UK website. The MCA and LEP will be considering how to deliver the programme most effectively.

3. Bid for GBR HQ

This month, Government is expected to announce the shortlist for the headquarters of Great British Railways. SYMCA, SYLEP, and partners across the region are supporting Doncaster's bid. Given Doncaster's historic links with the railways dating back to the 1850s, its central position on the East Coast Main Line, and its air, rail and road links, the town is ideally placed. People are being asked to get involved by indicating why they think the HQ should be based in Doncaster by completing an online survey.

5. South Yorkshire Business Advisory Group

SY Business Advisory Group continues to meet on an eight-weekly cycle to discuss and input into key items of concern to the business community. The group includes key representative organisations including: the three local Chambers of Commerce, the Federation of Small Businesses (FSB), the Confederation of Business Industry (CBI), UNITE, Finance for Enterprise, MakeUK, InTrade Forum, Sheffield Property Association, South Yorkshire Community Foundation, and the British Business Bank.