

SKILLS & EMPLOYMENT THEMATIC BOARD

6th August 2019

Skills and Employment Overview

Purpose of Report

The paper and accompanying presentation provide Board members with the following:

- an overview of the current landscape in Sheffield City Region around skills and employment
- overview of current programmes
- emerging evidence to structure future priorities/activities in SCR around skills and employment

Thematic Priority

Develop the SCR skills base, labour mobility and education performance

Freedom of Information

This paper may be released under a Freedom of Information request. In this section, it must be clear if the paper has any exemption under [Part II of the Freedom of Information Act 2000](#)

Recommendations

That Board members:

- note the summarised evidence base presented and overviews of current programmes
- discuss the emerging areas for prioritisation and agree these as areas for developmental work

1. Introduction

1.1 The City Region is developing a new Economic Strategy for the region.

The Strategic Economic Plan (SEP) will be a single overarching strategy which will set out the wider socio-economic aspirations and inclusive priorities for SCR over the medium to long term (10 years for the plan and 20 years for the vision).

Falling out of the SEP will be a Local Industrial Strategy (LIS). This will align with the National Industrial Strategy and drive long-term productivity growth. This will be agreed with Government.

The work on the evidence base is reaching completion. This highlights a set of key messages which will shape the emerging priorities for the SEP and LIS. This paper provides a summary of the evidence base, specifically for skills and employment.

2. Proposal and justification

- 2.1** The attached presentation, which will be presented to the Board, provides:
- an overview of the available evidence base in relation to skills and employment,
 - current challenges and
 - what programmes are currently being delivered

The presentation aims to stimulate discussion on the future policy direction and priority SCR around skills and employment and where the LEP/MCA can add most value/impact.

- 2.2** Board Members are invited to consider the evidence in respect of priority areas of activity in relation to Skills and Employment.

Further work to develop the propositions will be brought back to the Board for consideration, in accordance with the Board's agreed Forward Plan.

3. Consideration of alternative approaches

- 3.1** There are no viable alternatives propositions as the LEP/MCA has empowered the Thematic Boards to
- Shape future policy development and priorities on issues related to skills and employment;
 - Develop new skills and employment programmes;

4. Implications

4.1 Financial

There are no financial implications to this paper.

4.2 Legal

There are no legal implications to this paper.

4.3 Risk Management

Through the development of programmes, appropriate risk measures will be put in place in line with the SCR Risk Management Programme.

4.4 Equality, Diversity and Social Inclusion ([Equality Act - Public Sector Equality Duty](#))

The presentation considers all aspects of society to understand where opportunities aren't available or where particular barriers are preventing residents from accessing opportunities.

5. Communications

- 5.1** All propositions developed by Thematic Boards to support the SEP / LIS will be communicated to and subject to agreement by the LEP / MCA to adopt the new policy.

A communications plan underpins the work to develop the SEP and the LIS and specific work resulting from this. The SCR Corporate Communications plan will reflect agreed LEP, Mayoral and MCA priorities.

6. Appendices/Annexes

- 6.1** Appendix 1 – Skills and Employment Presentation

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Background papers used in the preparation of this report are available for inspection at: 11 Broad Street West, Sheffield S1 2BQ

Other sources and references:

- Chapter 5 Skills and Employment (Strategic Economic Plan Evidence base)- 2019
- SCR STEM Curriculum review -2017