

INFRASTRUCTURE BOARD

29th AUGUST 2019

STRATEGIC ECONOMIC PLAN AND LOCAL INDUSTRIAL STRATEGY

Purpose of Report

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

- an overview of the current economic landscape in Sheffield City Region
- emerging evidence and priority areas for SCR

Members will be provided with an understanding of the evidence base and the emerging narrative for the Sheffield City Region (SCR) Strategic Economic Plan and Local Industrial Strategy. The presentation will inform a discussion of the next stage of development of priorities for the economic plan.

Thematic Priority

This paper links to all thematic priorities and the eventual outputs will shape the thematic priorities in the future.

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;
- Discuss the emerging areas for prioritisation and agree these as areas for strategy 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, including in relation to 'Infrastructure.'

2. Proposal and justification

2.1 The attached slides, which will be presented to the Board, provides:

- an overview of the evidence base and current challenges; and
- the potential focus of future priorities

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

2.2 Given the role of the LEP, the analysis has focused on socio-economic data on the economy, productivity, labour market, business base and infrastructure. This aligns with the themes set out in the national industrial strategy and adopts a broader focus around inclusive growth that builds on the City Region's strengths.

2.3 The development of the 2014 SEP and the work undertaken on the LIS documents that have been published, illustrate the strengths of a comprehensive and rigorous evidence base when negotiating with Government. Following feedback, the evidence base will be further developed in areas where the analysis is lighter (e.g. culture).

2.4 Given the evidence pack's length, a summary is attached as an appendix. An additional, technical evidence document is available for LEP Board members on request.

2.5 Board Members are invited to consider the evidence, particularly in respect of 'infrastructure' issues and activities in relation to the economic strategy.

In the emerging SEP, infrastructure will be considered as part of the "Place" objectives which in turn will complement the "Opportunity" and "Prosperity" objectives. The emerging vision is focused on our "People" (all who live, work or visit SCR). The emerging infrastructure policies aim to transform connectivity (digital and transport), coherent urban centres, viable sub-urban towns and settlements and our cultural offer to deliver sustainable attractive places where people and businesses chose to locate and can thrive.

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:

- Contribute to future policy development and priorities;
- Develop new 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

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 – Summary of Evidence Base

| | |
|----------------------|---|
| REPORT AUTHOR | Jonathan Guest |
| POST | Senior Economic Policy Manager |
| Officer responsible | Felix Kumi-Ampofo |
| Organisation | Sheffield City Region |
| Email | Felix.Kumi-Ampofo@Sheffieldcityregion.org.uk |
| Telephone | T: 0114 220 3416 |

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:

- Strategic Economic Plan Evidence Base – 2019 (Summary Evidence Pack) – Appendix A.
- Relevant documents available on the website:
<https://sheffieldcityregion.org.uk/explore/resources/>