

September 2019

Chief Executive's 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. Convention for the North:** On 13th September a meeting of the Convention for the North will take place. The event is taking place at Magna, Rotherham and will bring together elected Mayors, council leaders, the private sector and representatives from civil society to discuss key issues affecting the North of England. The event is being supported by the eleven LEPs from across the North.
- 2. Business engagement:** A number of business engagement events are taking place to discuss the Strategic Economic Plan and Local Industrial Strategy. These events, run in conjunction with the Chambers of Commerce and other representative groups, are informing the development of the work in advance of the formal consultation period.
- 3. Annual General Meeting:** work continues to be done on the development of a LEP AGM and business conference that will take place before the end of the year.
- 4. Spending Review:** the Chancellor has indicated that there will be a limited 1 year Spending Review to enable Government Departments to plan for 2020/21. The review will not include capital funding outside of those funds already announced by the Government. It is unlikely that there will be any announcements regarding replacements for both Local Growth and European Structural funds.
- 5. Quarterly Economic Survey –** the joint project with the SCR Chambers of Commerce, the LEP and the University of Sheffield Management School will recommence this quarter. Quarterly survey results will be reported to the LEP and will inform prioritisation and policy development.
- 6. Future High Streets Fund –** both Barnsley and Doncaster have had their Future High Streets Fund proposals added to the shortlist for the next stage. The new Prime Minister pledged to increase the fund by £350m. These proposals join Sheffield and Rotherham in the shortlist.
- 7. Transport for the North Partnership Board:** The next meeting of Transport for the North will take place on Thursday 12th September.