

BUSINESS GROWTH THEMATIC BOARD

1st October 2020

RAP Draft Implementation Plan

Purpose of Report

This paper is intended to provide the board with the draft plan of the implementation plan for the Employer section of the Renewal Action Plan. Following the progress update at the last board meeting, the Board will be presented with the proposed delivery plan to review, discuss and endorse the current set of proposals.

Thematic Priority

1. Facilitate and proactively support growth amongst existing firms
2. Increase sales of SCR's goods and services to other parts of the UK and abroad.

Freedom of Information and Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972

The paper will be available under the Combined Authority Publication Scheme

Recommendations

The Business Growth Board:

- Members are requested to consider and endorse the overall package of support detailed in the paper and agree the priorities as identified in paragraph 2.5.

1. Introduction

- 1.1** Following the progress update at last board of the Employer section of The Sheffield City Region (SCR) Renewal Action Plan (RAP), a consolidated draft implementation plan is presented which brings together the areas highlighted in the RAP for progressing. It includes proposals in the format agreed that have been developed to address the key challenge themes under the employer section, specifically:

1. Flexible Investment and Re-capitalisation
2. Access to Specialist Advice
3. Supply Chain and Procurement Support
4. Leadership Support
5. Digital Upskilling and Technology Adoption

2 Proposal and justification

- 2.1** The enclosed document for review in appendix A outlines the agreed delivery interventions under the Employer section of the RAP, to be delivered across a 3 year timeline, with some interventions delivered within 6-12 months providing essential relief,

with some delivered over 3 years, all are focussed primarily on providing relief and essential support to employers and businesses.

Each task and finish group was led by a local authority and included representation from all four local authorities and also the LEP, along with external representation being invited to provide advice and support where the local authorities required.

2.2 Each task group reported into a wider delivery group for discussion and agreement chaired by a LEP board member, which collectively agreed and discussed the relevant plans and tracked progress. The resulting initiatives for delivery of the employer section, all of which are detailed in full in the document, include:

2.3

Intervention	Interventions	Investment Per Intervention	Projected Outputs	Total Outputs	Overall Targets and Outcome
Services and knowledge support for COVID-19 adaptation	Including Specialist Advisors Specialist Framework	£3,343,280 per annum £808,320 for Regional advisors £2,424,960 accessing specialist support	2500 Businesses per annum supported	Over 3 Years Engaging and supporting up to 7500 businesses	Over 25,845 businesses supported: COVID-19 adapted working environments. Reduced carbon emissions. Access to specialist support over 8,000 jobs created/safeguarded through supply chain re-shoring / localising. Invoice and cashflow support. Investment to innovate and thrive.
Digital adoption and upskilling for our organisations	Regional Digital Hub comprising Advisory, Incubation, Accelerators and soft landing support	£5.680 m over 3 years (£2.09m PA) excluding Digital investment funds	1000 businesses per annum supported	5000 business supported over three years – supporting tech adoption and	
Flexible investment and recapitalisation	Including : Relief Grant Capital Fund Grant Repayable Loan Funding Equity Fund	£71m in year 1 including Relief Fund £30m - Yr 2 £10m - Yr 3	8,025 businesses supported over 3 years	Approx. 7500 businesses in Yr 1 7275 of which supported via the relief fund	
Employer leadership support	Including training Coaching, Mentoring, Peer to Peer support and Non – Exec support	£5m per annum years £3m Coaching £2m NED Access	1000 businesses supported Of which 500 receiving one to one business coaching	3000 individuals/ businesses supported over 3 years	

Supply chain and procurement support	Supply Chain opportunity Development Supply readiness Supply Chain mapping	£7.6m in total - 3 Yrs £2.83m Yr 1 £2.38m Yr 2 £2.38m Yr 3	Businesses supported 4320 Jobs created / safeguarded 8,640	4320 businesses supported (many light touch) – Over 8600 jobs safeguarded and created	
Marketing	Range of Marketing activities and prime and market the offers	£121k per annum	Essential to market the identified initiatives overall and pump prime activity	Forecast to reach target 25,000 employers with the interventions in the RAP, with a 121k budget circa £5 per conversion.	

2.4 The total intervention cost for the employer section for this draft document totals **£149,328,040** supporting up to **25,845 businesses**. Due to the nature of this document still being finalised some elements may change slightly.

2.5 The delivery group have identified the most immediate priorities as being;

- Priority 1 - A Relief Fund, providing financial support to businesses
- Priority 2 - Extending regional access to advisory and specialist support
- Priority 3 - Access to Digital adoption and upskilling support
- Priority 4 - Supply Development support - Mapping and opportunity development
- Priority 5 - Marketing Activity - Positive messaging and comms on initiatives

3. Consideration of alternative approaches

3.1 Following discussions at the September 2nd Business Growth Thematic Board, this approach was agreed for progress however any recommended approaches will be fully explored. The RAP document itself has been consulted on heavily with partners and stakeholders to shape evidence, the options, approaches, objectives and the delivery team will continue to engage and bring in expertise where necessary and prudent.

4. Implications

4.1 Financial

This is a draft document for review and agreement and as a result there are no financial implications arising from this report at this stage.

4.2 Legal

There are no legal implications arising from this report

4.3 Risk Management

There are no legal implications arising from this report due to this being a draft document for review and no risk analysis has taken place or deemed necessary at this stage.

4.4 Equality, Diversity and Social Inclusion

No requirements associated with the discussion of this paper at this point.

5. Communications

5.1 It is anticipated that following this discussion, at the next thematic board a further paper and a draft plan will be brought back for discussion and consideration.

6. Appendices/Annexes

6.1 Appendix 1: Employer Delivery Plan

Report Author	David Grimes
Post	Head of Growth Hub
Officer responsible	Dave Smith
Organisation	Sheffield City Region
Email	dave.smith@sheffieldcityregion.org.uk
Telephone	0114 220 3442

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: N/A