

Local Enterprise Partnership

01 July 2021

LEP Annual Report 2020/21 & Delivery Plan 2021/22

Is the paper exempt from the press and public?	No
Purpose of this report:	Governance
Funding Stream:	Not applicable
Is this a Key Decision?	No
Has it been included on the Forward Plan?	Not a Key Decision

Director Approving Submission of the Report:

Stephen Batey, Director of Mayoral Office

Report Author(s):

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Executive Summary:

A requirement of the LEP Review 2018, is that all LEPs are required to publish an end of year report to outline the activities, outputs and achievements that have been delivered in the preceding financial year, and an annual delivery plan of activities for the coming year. This paper presents, for approval, the LEP Annual Report (2020-21) and Delivery Plan (2021-22).

What does this mean for businesses, people and places in South Yorkshire?

This Annual Report outlines what the LEP has delivered in the past year for businesses, people and places in South Yorkshire, and a summary of what it aims to deliver in the coming year.

Recommendations:

LEP Board members are asked to endorse the content of the LEP Annual Report (2020-21) and Delivery Plan (2021-22) and provide feedback where required.

Consideration by any other Board, Committee, Assurance or Advisory Panel

None

1. Background

- 1.1 In line with national government guidance and good practice the LEP produces an annual report and delivery plan. This paper presents the LEP Annual Report for 2020-21 and LEP Delivery Plan for 2021-22 combined into a single publication at Appendix A.

2. Key Issues

- 2.1 The LEP Annual Report 2020-21 and Delivery Plan 2021-22 provides a review of activities undertaken by the LEP during the previous financial year including highlights from Thematic Board areas and notable achievements. It also summarises the LEP's plans and celebrates the achievements of the LGF programme that concluded in 20/21 after six-years.
- 2.2 2020/21 marked the final funded year of the Local Growth Fund (LGF). The mid-term evaluation revealed that for every £1 of LGF investment in the economy, a further £2.35 of match funding was generated for the economy, and that to date the LGF programme has returned £24 for every £1 invested, with this predicted to rise to return £67 for every £1 of LGF invested once all outputs have been achieved

2.3 Achievements and Successes from 2020-21

Notable achievements and successes that are highlighted in the report include

- Establishing the South Yorkshire Careers and Enterprise Company Hub and growing the number of schools engaged
- Continuing to build an ambitious investment pipeline of indigenous and inward investment growth businesses
- Supporting the development and delivery of the £33m Getting Building Fund programme, including supporting Project Sponsors in securing £20.5m infrastructure and investment during the year.
- Establishing the Skills Advisory Network and supporting the development of an evidence base to inform a new Skills Strategy
- Incorporating the views of over 250 business leaders and partner organisations from the public, private and voluntary sectors into the revised and approved Strategic Economic Plan.
- Recruiting a number of new LEP Board Members from diverse backgrounds and experiences, broadening our mix of skills and expertise.

2.4 Activities for 2021/22

The report includes a table of the outputs that LEP funded projects will deliver in the 2021/22 financial year. Other key activities that are highlighted for delivery this year include:

- Offering strategic insight and direction to establish a delivery plan for Gainshare Investment
- In 2021/22 the SCR Digital Infrastructure Strategy will be completed to provide a framework for the roll-out of gigabit capable broadband infrastructure and 5G across South Yorkshire.
- Supporting the continuing Growth Hub and Skills Bank programmes, as well as the first-year delivery of the Adult Education Budget

- The recent agreement to re-name the MCA will need strategic place-making and brand development input to maximise our reputational impact
- To achieve a fairer region, we have work to do to inform the development of the Inclusion Strategy that incorporates the views of diverse stakeholders across the geographic footprint
- Continuing to develop the business investment pipeline and identify opportunities to champion and advocate for South Yorkshire as a place that is open for business
- Advising on Mayoral priority areas such as Active Travel and Arts, Culture and Heritage, and supporting these programmes of work.

A more detailed programme of MCA and LEP activity is set out in the MCA/LEP Corporate Plan.

2.5 LEP Board members are asked to consider the draft LEP Annual Report and Delivery Plan at Appendix A and advise of any required changes. The finalised document will be submitted to Government and published on the SCR website.

3. Options Considered and Recommended Proposal

3.1 Option 1

The LEP is expected to prepare an annual report and delivery plan. Doing nothing and not producing the required documentation is not a viable option as it would adversely affect our Annual Performance Review grading.

3.2 Option 1 Risks and Mitigations

Should SCR fail to produce these reports / combined report, SCR could be subject to Government intervention. This ranges from regular performance meetings and remedial action plans to risk-based deep dive reviews.

3.3 Recommended Option

Option 1

4. Consultation on Proposal

4.1 Non-applicable.

5. Timetable and Accountability for Implementing this Decision:

5.1 The report will be published within 10 working days of the LEP decision.

6. Financial and Procurement Implications and Advice

6.1 Not applicable.

7. Legal Implications and Advice

7.1 Not applicable.

8. Human Resources Implications and Advice

8.1 Not applicable.

9. Equality and Diversity Implications and Advice

9.1 Not applicable.

10. Climate Change Implications and Advice

10.1 Not applicable.

11. Information and Communication Technology Implications and Advice

11.1 Not applicable.

12. Communications and Marketing Implications and Advice. Please also refer to consultation undertaken as per Section 4

12.1 The Annual Report and Delivery Plan will be published on the MCA/LEP website.

List of Appendices Included

A LEP Annual Report 2020-21 and Delivery Plan 2021-2022

Background Papers:

Not applicable.