

20th May 2019

LEP DELIVERY PLAN

Purpose of Report

Following the publication of the Government's LEP Review report in July 2018, '*Strengthened Local Enterprise Partnerships*', all LEPs are now required to produce and publish an annual Delivery Plan to outline the activities and outputs the LEP will deliver. This paper presents the draft LEP Delivery Plan 2019/20.

Thematic Priority

Cross-cutting across all six thematic priorities.

Freedom of Information

Under the Freedom of Information Act this paper and appendix will be made available under the SCR Publication Scheme.

Recommendations

LEP Board members are asked to consider and approve the draft LEP Delivery Plan 2019/20.

1. Introduction

- 1.1 On 24 July 2018, the Government published the '*Strengthened Local Enterprise Partnerships*' report which outlined the conclusions and recommendations from the LEP Review.
- 1.2 To improve the accountability of LEPs and to strengthen the monitoring and reporting of LEP performance, the Government tasked all LEPs to produce and publish an annual LEP Delivery Plan by 31 May 2019. This paper presents the draft SCR LEP Delivery Plan 2019/20 (Appendix A).

2. Proposal and justification

- 2.1 The '*Strengthened Local Enterprise Partnerships*' report concluded that LEP structures and performance measures vary across the country, resulting in a lack of clarity on the role and impact of the LEPs.

2.2 The LEP Review made a number of recommendations to improve the rigour of the Government's annual review of LEP performance (formerly known as the Annual Conversation) and to strengthen accountability and transparency over how public funds are invested.

LEPs are required to:

- Produce and publish an annual **LEP Delivery Plan** by 31 May 2019, outlining the agreed priorities and interventions that will be funded, delivered, monitored and evaluated over the coming year.
- Produce and publish a **LEP End of Year Report** on actual activities, outputs and outcomes delivered.
- Hold an **Annual General Meeting (AGM)** which is open to the public and promoted to businesses.

The Government will:

- Measure and publish economic performance data of all LEPs in an **Annual Economic Outlook** report. This will include benchmarking the performance of individual LEPs.
- Introduce a new regular **Peer Review** process to assess and improve LEP performance. The peer review system will be developed jointly by the Government, LEP Network and LEPs.
- Hold a **Mid-Year Review** session with each LEP to discuss strategic direction.
- Monitor the LEP's performance through the **Annual Performance Review** and the submission of Quarterly Monitoring Returns (DELTA) for major growth programmes.

2.3 The draft SCR LEP Delivery Plan 2019/20 is structured as follows:

- **Introduction** – briefly outlines the structure of the LEP, how the LEP and Mayoral Combined Authority (MCA) work together and the LEP's vision.
- **Our Strategic Objectives** – summarises the strengths and challenges in the SCR economy based on the latest data and the aspirations and targets for growing the SCR economy from the current Strategic Economic Plan (SEP). This section also includes a diagram of key LEP funded projects, a breakdown of LEP funding and expenditure by theme and the LEP's strategic priorities for investment.
- **Our Activities in 2019/20** – a table listing the LEP funded projects and initiatives that will be delivered by thematic area and strategic priority, including profiled expenditure and outputs for 2019/20.
- **Monitoring and Reporting Performance** – explains the processes in place for monitoring project delivery, reporting delivery progress to the LEP and MCA Boards, managing risk and evaluating the impact of projects.
- **Consultation and Engagement on Our Future Plans** – summarises how we will work with stakeholders and partners during 2019/20, including consultation on the revised SEP and development of the Local Industrial Strategy (LIS)
- **Timeline of Key Milestones 2019/20** – a diagram outlining when key LEP funded projects and activities will be delivered during the year, including public consultation on the SEP and partner consultation on the LIS.

2.4 LEPs were required to submit a draft of the Delivery Plan 2019/20 to Government by 30 April. SCR complied with this requirement.

2.5 LEP Board members are asked to consider the draft Delivery Plan 2019/20 at Appendix A and advise of any required changes. The finalised Delivery Plan must be submitted to Government and published on the SCR website by 31 May 2019.

3. Consideration of alternative approaches

- 3.1 The recommendations contained in the '*Strengthening Local Enterprise Partnerships*' report, including the production and publication of an annual Delivery Plan, are a form of guidance which all LEPs are required to comply with.

4. Implications

4.1

Financial

There are no direct financial implications arising from this paper.

The draft LEP Delivery Plan only includes LEP funded projects and initiatives that have already been approved by both the LEP and MCA Boards.

4.2 Legal

There are no legal implications arising from this paper.

4.3 Risk Management

As a result of the LEP Review, the Government has formalised their approach for dealing with non-compliant or underperforming LEPs. Should SCR fail to deliver the recommendations in the LEP Review or against the outcome targets in the annual LEP Delivery Plan, SCR could be subject to Government intervention. This ranges from regular performance meetings and remedial action plans to risk-based deep dive reviews and ultimately, the withholding of LEP funding.

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

There are no equality, diversity and social inclusion implications arising from this paper.

5. Communications

- 5.1 Once approved, the LEP Delivery Plan 2019/20 will be published on the SCR website. A mid-year report on progress towards the activities, expenditure and outputs outlined in the Delivery Plan will be presented to the LEP Board in November 2019 and published on the SCR website.

6. Appendices/Annexes

- 6.1 Appendix A – Draft SCR LEP Delivery Plan 2019/20

REPORT AUTHOR	Lyndsey Whitaker
POST	Senior Economic Policy Manager
Officer responsible	Felix Kumi-Ampofo
Organisation	SCR Executive Team
Email	felix.kumi-ampofo@sheffieldcityregion.org.uk
Telephone	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: