

# Hull and East Yorkshire LEP Board

Chief Operating Officer's Report  
Report to the Board, 30<sup>th</sup> September 2021  
Paper B - Report from Teresa Chalmers and the HEY LEP Team

## 1. Summary

1.1. This report provides the board with an overview summary of the work of the HEY LEP since the last board meeting; further specific areas of work are covered by other reports to be discussed in this meeting.

## 2. Recommendations

2.1. The Board to acknowledge the breadth of work being undertaken.

2.2. The Board to approve the Vision Statement.

## 3. Report

3.1. **Governance.** All LEPs are regularly audited by government colleagues to check for compliance with the National Assurance Framework, the process is via an annual and mid-year review plus a website audit. The latter took place in August 2021 and the LEP received confirmation of being at the required standard.

3.2. The six-month mid-year review will take place on 1st October 2021 and will include BEIS and LEP colleagues to assess programme performance and output on existing investments. This year LEPs have been asked to provide some additional financial data for government which will be used to inform recommendations in the national LEP Review.

3.3. All three sub-board dates for this financial year have now being set and will be circulated shortly. The chairs are confirming their preferences regarding members inductions which will take place prior to the first October meetings and involve various members of the LEP team.

3.4. The final sub-board, the Innovation and Transformation board is under development and a presentation on the proposals will come to the board in the November meeting.

4. **HEY LEP Vision Statement.** Thank you to all board members for the ideas and suggestions on the vision statement which were varied and very helpful. It is always challenging to gain a consensus, but following further conversations with the Chair the final vision statement in short and long versions follows:

- **Short Vision:** *Leading the UK with a dynamic net-zero economy, Hull and East Yorkshire is a prosperous, productive, and innovative region with opportunities for everyone in our community.*

- **Long Vision:** *Leading the UK with a dynamic net-zero economy, Hull and East Yorkshire is a region with prosperous, productive, and innovative businesses, across all communities. Our diverse and resilient economy includes a skilled workforce across all key sectors with opportunities for all. We are home to high-quality services and facilities that meet the needs of our unique urban, coastal, and rural geography, while supporting the health and wellbeing of everyone.*

Board members are asked to approve this statement which will be used along with the Mission Statement approved at the last meeting:

*“We are a catalyst for economic growth in Hull and East Yorkshire, building a better quality of life for everyone through successful business-led initiatives and partnership working.”*

The vision statement will also appear in the economic strategy which is on today’s agenda.

5. **Humber LEP legacy event.** The legacy event is being planned for 1<sup>st</sup> December this year to recognise the output of the former LEP and to thank previous board members for their support. The event will take place at the Country Park Hotel in Hessle from 9am to 11am and will also be an opportunity to launch the HEY LEP and the new economic strategy. All Board members are invited to attend along with stakeholders. Event booking will be in place to confirm numbers and ensure Covid safety practices. The invitation link will be circulated to the board in the forthcoming weeks.
6. **HEY LEP Team.** Recruitment of the Humber Industrial Cluster Plan roles of Data Coordinator and Project Coordinator has now taken place and the two preferred candidates are now going through the process. In addition, the Energy Hub Manager is also being progressed. The Workforce Development Business Advisor replacement role will be advertised in due course; this role links businesses to apprentices, T levels and other students looking for work placements.
7. The department for Digital, Media, Culture and Sport are finalising the approval of the 50% contribution to the Humber Local Digital Skills Partnership manager post. This will allow the Local Digital Skills Partnership (LDSP) to continue for another year from Oct 2021. Outputs achieved in the first year of activity are included in the Employment and Skills report on the agenda today for information.

LEP team members are now beginning to work from both the Hull office (Wykeland House) and the Beverley office (County Hall) two to three days per week with flexibility for home working continuing. This allows the offices to retain 50% maximum occupancy which is required for health and safety reasons.

8. **Vision for a better Hull.** Hull City Council and the University of Hull are working together to further develop their ambitions to Net Zero. Reckitt has worked in

leadership with the local authority to help determine several working streams that will address Hull's broader issues over the next few years. These working streams include:

- Power
- Mobility, Consumption, Carbon Sequestration
- Innovation
- Jobs and Skills
- Energy

I have been asked to chair the Jobs and Skills Workstream in its first iteration and the group is now focussing on what the first priorities will be in delivering this work. Initial group conversations have included raising employer investment in skills, the range of provision and any immediate gaps, and the production of a baseline of current existing mechanisms to ensure that this work does not duplicate existing activities such as the LEP Employment and Skills Board, the plans for the Freeport Skills Group and the work on skills carried out by the Humber Industrial Cluster Plan.

**9. HEY LEP and the British Business Bank.** The LEP continues to work in partnership with the British Business Bank who have recently announced their impact in the Yorkshire and Humber region. Figures show that start up loans in Yorkshire & the Humber received the third highest number of loans outside of London with a volume of 7,497 (nine percent) worth over £68 million. Of these loans, 39 per cent went to female owned businesses.

**10. North East and Yorkshire Energy Hub.** The LEP maintains its active role as one of the six LEP partners in the North East and Yorkshire Energy Hub which provides strategic support and resource to enable the delivery of local energy strategy. Specific support has been provided to the two local authorities with the funding and commissioning of a feasibility study for roll-out of EV infrastructure to support their carbon pathways for transport. The study will be completed in October.

**11. Cabinet Reshuffle.** The PM has now completed his first cabinet reshuffle under this administration and these changes can be found at [Her Majesty's Government: The Cabinet - MPs and Lords - UK Parliament](#). James Newman will pick up some of the potential impact of change in his verbal report at today's meeting.

## **12. Report financial and resource implications**

12.1 LDSP managerial post – 50% match funding allocated to top up the 50% drawn from the Humber LEP reserves as per the previous budget report to the board.