

Hull and East Yorkshire LEP

Paper E – Made Smarter Programme Update
Report to the Business Support Board, 17 March 2022
Report from Jon Brunton, Growth Hub Manager

1. Introduction

- 1.1. Made Smarter is a government funded business support programme that enables manufacturing SMEs to explore, adopt and implement digital technology within their operations; with the overall aim of improving SME innovation and productivity.
- 1.2. The HEY Growth Hub is part of a Made Smarter Pilot Programme being delivered in Yorkshire and The Humber in 2021/22, with the Programme being contract managed by Sheffield City Region LEP on behalf of the four Yorkshire LEPs.
- 1.3. This paper provides an operational update on the performance of the 2021/22 Made Smarter Pilot in Yorkshire & The Humber, as well as an update on the future funding position for Made Smarter for the period 2022 – 2025.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1. That the Board notes this latest programme update.

3. Made Smarter 2021/22 Operational Update

- 3.1. At its core Made Smarter helps local manufacturing businesses to innovate, creating new opportunities and technologies in the process.
- 3.2. Made Smarter builds on the core offer of Growth Hubs by offering manufacturers access to expert technical advice, support and funding to progress digital technology adoptions plans. It does this via the following interventions:
 - **Digital Road Mapping** – Intensive engagement with a series of expert advisor to map a way forward
 - **Intensive Technical Support** – advisors can help with informed choices about suppliers and partners
 - **Capex Grants** – grant to cover up to 50% of the capital costs of implement a digital solution to manufacturing process issue
 - **Digital Internships** – opportunities for undergraduates and postgraduates to bring their digital skills and knowledge to a business

- **Made Smarter Leadership & Management Training** – bespoke training for the senior leaders in the business, to give them the tools they need to help lead their digitalisation journey

3.3. Any aspect of a manufacturer’s business operations – from the design office to production shopfloor – is in scope for Made Smarter support. However, the programme prioritises support for the following digital technology and solutions:

- Additive Manufacturing (3D printing)
- Augmented and Virtual Reality
- Big Data & Analytics
- Artificial Intelligence, Cognitive Learning and Machine Learning
- Data & Systems Integration
- Industrial Cyber Security
- Industrial Internet of Things
- Mobile Devices & Wearable Tech
- Robotics & Process Control Automation

3.4. Launched in November 2022 and in delivery until 31st March 2022, the Made Smarter Yorkshire Pilot had achieved the following deliverables as of 06 March 2022

Deliverable	Contracted Global Target	Achieved at 09 March 2022	Hull & East Yorkshire only
Manufacturers Registered	150	188	18
Digital Road Maps Completed	80	96	4
Manufacturers accessing intensive technical support	60	46	4
Capex Grants Awarded	20	15	0
Digital Internships Commenced	15	16	0
Leadership & Management cohorts operated and number of participants	3 cohorts / 60 participants	3 cohorts / 35 participants	0

4. Made Smarter 2022 - 2025

- 4.1. In February 2022 BEIS provided verbal notification to the Made Smarter Yorkshire & Humber steering group that a three year funding settlement had been confirmed, with a formal offer letter to follow.
- 4.2. Delivery of Made Smarter in Yorkshire & Humber over three years from April 2022 is subject to a business case, delivery model and delivery plan. These are being developed as part of co-design process between the four Yorkshire Growth Hubs.
- 4.3. BEIS have strongly encouraged the inclusion of digital skills for the workforce within the delivery model and business case. Current allied provision is current being mapped and provision gaps assessment in partnership with LEP Employment & Skills colleagues
- 4.4. It is currently anticipated that the business case, delivery model and delivery plan will be completed and submitted to BEIS by Friday 25 March. Subject to the BEIS appraisal and decision making process, a funding offer letter and agreement could be in place with Sheffield City Region LEP by the middle of April.
- 4.5. BEIS have made £375,000 of continuation funding available to ensure uninterrupted Made Smarter delivery in Q1 2022/23. This will allow a minimum level of service to be provided between the closedown of the 2021/22 pilot and the implementation of the 2022-25 Programme.

5. Financial and resource implications

- 5.1. All Made Smarter activity is accounted for via a funding agreement between BEIS and Sheffield City Region LEP. The formal funding offer for the 2022-25 programme is still awaited. There are no current financial or resource implications for the HEY LEP.

6. Summary

- 6.1. The Made Smarter Pilot Programme in Yorkshire and the Humber is currently performing well and is on course to exceed the majority of deliverables indicators in 2022. However, engagement numbers for Hull and East Yorkshire manufacturing businesses are disappointing and below expected levels.
- 6.2. The co-design process for the delivery of Made Smarter in 2022-2025 is currently underway and subject to appraisal and approved of the business case, delivery model and plan, a funding offer letter and agreement is expected from BEIS in April 2022.