

Heart of SW LEP CIC Board meeting

Paper 4.2 July 2017

Report title: **Productivity Plan Update**

Report theme: Board

Author: Eifion Jones

Purpose of the report

Following discussion at the May Board, this provides an update on the Productivity Plan.

Recommendations

The LEP Board supports the contents of this paper.

Background

Development of the Productivity Plan is now being done within the partnership of local authorities, the LEP, national parks and the clinical commissioning groups, building on the evidence base, wide-ranging consultations and feedback from the May Board.

The Plan will form a key part of coordinating local partners' economic development activities in pursuit of this goal whilst also acting as a key tool to continue discussions with Government over opportunities to invest in the Heart of the South West area.

A small drafting team from HotSW partners will develop the detailed narrative and attached with this paper is the proposed framework. The team sit within a wider drafting and editorial group which includes representation from Chambers, both Devon and Somerset, and Devon and Cornwall Business Council, ensuring a direct business voice into the content. The editorial group also includes the universities, local authorities, national parks and the LEP.

In addition the LEP, on behalf of the partnership, is securing additional resource for two specific areas of work; an editorial role which will work with the drafting team to ensure a 'one voice' document pitched at the right level, and a piece of economic and social modelling to work through the economic and social outcomes of the push for productivity growth. The second block of work will ensure robust analysis underlines any ambition and that any sensitive issues, such as impact on housing plans, are surfaced.

Timing

A draft Plan is targeted for LEP Board review on 19th September and Leaders' review on 22nd September. Following these dates the plan will be consulted on more widely with a final Plan by end 2017.

E Jones
11 July 2017