

Heart of SW LEP CIC Board meeting

Paper 5.2 September 2018

Report title: **Productivity Strategy Delivery Plan & Communications Document**

Report theme: Board

Author: Eifion Jones

Purpose of the report

To update the Board on progress in the Productivity Strategy's delivery plan and associated communications document.

Recommendations

That the LEP Board

- notes the progress in the delivery plan and endorses its direction and content
- endorses the communication document
- notes the request for feedback on both documents by 17.00 on 25 September

Background

The July Board discussed the work to develop a delivery plan and create a separate communications document to be used with MPs and other key stakeholders to highlight the opportunities in the Heart of the SW and so support the continued raising of the profile of the area.

Accompanying this paper is the emerging delivery plan. The communications document will be circulated at the Board meeting.

Delivery Plan

The plan broadly divides into two sections – a 'core offer' concentrating on business support and skills which is available to all people and businesses everywhere; and a section focussing on the opportunities specific to the LEP area. Board members are asked to note that the delivery plan is continuing to be developed as a result of the September Business and People Leadership groups – at the time of writing the skills content is being developed and the business support section further refined following feedback from the group. The Place group considers the plan on the 19 September.

The delivery plan outlines existing work and that required in the future. As previously briefed, at this stage the opportunities section contains half of the agreed opportunities: Digital (photonics); Advanced Engineering (marine; nuclear); High-value Tourism; Farming, Food & Fishing. Work on the other opportunities is progressing with a view to updating the plan in early 2019 to incorporate Healthy Ageing, further Digital (creative & big data) and Advanced Engineering (aerospace) content, Construction and Defence. Place markers are included for inclusive growth and natural

capital and again content will be developed around these for the early 2019 version. The Board are asked to note that this timescale and the next phase of the delivery plan will in part be dependent on the development of the Local Industrial Strategy – see below.

The plan, including feedback from the LEP's Leadership Groups, will be presented to the Joint Committee on 5 October. **To incorporate Board members' feedback ahead of that, members are requested to send any feedback not raised at the Board meeting to Emma Buckman at emma@buckmanassociates.co.uk by 17.00 on Tuesday 25 September.**

Communications Document

The document is drawn from the delivery plan and will be presented at the Board. An October event is being developed to share with MPs and the document will be accompanied by a covering letter setting out the LEP's agreed asks (see separate paper). **To incorporate Board members' feedback ahead of that, members are requested to send any feedback on the communications document not raised at the Board meeting to Helena Davidson at helena.davison@heartofswlep.co.uk by 17.00 on Tuesday 25 September.**

Local Industrial Strategy

As highlighted separately, the Productivity Strategy, its evidence base and the close working between the LEP and the Joint Committee have been instrumental in securing HotSW's position amongst the wave 2 LEP areas for Local Industrial Strategies. The Productivity Strategy and the delivery plan will form the basis of the HotSW Local Industrial Strategy; the exact route from delivery plan to LIS will be developed in the coming weeks as the LEP works both with Government on the LIS, and with the Joint Committee on agreeing respective local responsibilities. With public consultation to form part of the LIS development in 2019, it is not therefore intended to take the delivery plan to widespread consultation before then.

Eifion Jones
10 September 2018