



LEP STRATEGY COMMITTEE – AGENDA ITEM 4

Subject: Strategy Work Programme Update

Author: Andy Hulme

Sponsor: Philip Cox

Meeting date: Friday 25th January 2019

Purpose

To update the Strategy Committee on progress with the Strategy Work Programme associated with the refresh of the SEP and development of its supporting strategies and delivery plans, including proposals for wider consultation and stakeholder engagement on emerging drafts.

Recommendations

The Strategy Committee is asked to

- a) Note the content of the report
- b) Note progress on finalising the Quality of Place and Housing Strategies
- c) Discuss and give its views on the emerging Digital Strategy
- d) Note the work under the Mersey Dee Alliance to develop an 'Energy Prospectus'

Background

1. The SEP work programme is now nearing completion, with the revised version of the SEP now available on line (and a limited supply of hard copies). Work is progressing on the remaining supporting strategies with updates provided on the housing, science and innovation and digital strategies.

Discussion

2. Work is now nearing completion on all of the supporting strategies to the SEP.

Quality of Place

3. The final version of the revised Quality of Place Strategy is still awaited from the graphic design company. There have been some issues in sourcing appropriate, high quality imagery to illustrate the strategy document, however with the support of a number of LEP partners (particularly the three Local Authorities) this has been resolved.

Housing

4. A presentation on the Housing Strategy was scheduled to be delivered to the LEP Board at its January meeting. Subject to Board sign off the summary strategy will be finalised and published by the end of March.

Science and Innovation



5. The draft Science and Innovation Strategy was considered further by the Strategy Committee at its November meeting. The text is currently with the LEP's graphic designers and it is suggested that the LEP Board receives a presentation on the Strategy at its March meeting.

Digital Strategy

6. The initial draft of the Digital Strategy was considered at the November meeting of the Strategy Committee. A revised draft is attached as **Appendix A** and subject to the feedback received from the Strategy Committee a final version will be worked up for consideration by the main LEP Board.

The Strategy Committee is asked to discuss and give its views on the emerging Digital Strategy.

Energy Prospectus

7. Strategy Committee members will recall that the LEP, working with the Mersey Dee Alliance (MDA) and North Wales Economic Ambition Board (NWEAB) organised a major conference in April 2018 to showcase the strength of the Energy and Clean Growth sector across the region. The event was attended by over 120 businesses, policy makers and stakeholders and included keynote speeches from the Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Wales Stuart Andrew MP, and the Welsh Assembly Minister for Economy and Transport, Ken Skates AM.
8. As part of the follow up to that event, the LEP, MDA and NWEAB committed to develop a 'prospectus' which could be used to highlight the extent of energy-related knowledge, expertise and assets across North Wales, Cheshire and Warrington and Liverpool City Region. A business-led Steering Group was established in Summer 2018 and an initial draft of the Prospectus is now nearing completion with a view to launching it at the MDA Annual General Meeting on 7th March.